FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 13 *19 January 1978*

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

VOP Criticizes Vance Speech in Jerusalem A 1 1/A6
VOP Says Husayn Works to Follow As-Sadat's Path A 1 1/A6
Iraqi, Syrian Officials Reportedly To Meet A 2 1/A7
USSR Reportedly To Intervene If Israel Attacks Syria A 2 1/A7

ARABIAN PENINSULA

SAUDI ARABIA

AL-MADINAH Praises As-Sadat's Recall of Negotiators C 1 1/A8
London Paper Notes Saudi Offer To Buy Gaza, West Bank C 1 1/A8
[FINANCIAL TIMES 18 Jan 78]
Information Minister's Denial C 2 1/A9
Japanese Foreign Minister Sonoda Continues Visit C 2 1/A9
Meeting With Fahd C 2 1/A9
Conclusion of Talks C 2 1/A9
KYODO Report on Talks C 3 1/A10
Further Details on Talks C 4 1/A11
Sonoda Press Conference C 5 1/A12
Radio Says Begin's Attitude Inconsistent With Peace C 5 1/A12

EGYPT

Political Committee Delegation Recalled From Jerusalem D 1 1/A13
Military Meetings To Continue D 2 1/A14
Political Committee Delegation Returns to Cairo D 3 1/B1
Spokesman's Statement D 3 1/B1
Mubarak: Egypt 'Completely Rejects' Weizman Plan D 3 1/B1
Press Unanimity Cited D 4 1/B2
Radio Commentary D 5 1/B3
Israeli Journalists in Cairo Reported Restricted D 6 1/B4
Information Minister Reports on Cabinet Meeting D 6 1/B4
Additions to As-Sadat Interview With OCTOBER Magazine D 7 1/B5
MENA: Israeli Defense Minister To Arrive in Cairo 19 Jan D 7 1/B5
Ashraf Marwan Leaves for Saudi Arabia 18 Jan D 8 1/B6
Sudanese Defense Minister Arrives in Cairo 18 Jan D 8 1/B6
U.S. Warned Against Pretending To Seek Peace [AL-AHRAM 16 Jan 78] D 8 1/B6
International Conference on Maritime Shipping Held D 9 1/B7
[AL-AHRAM 11 Jan 78]

JORDAN

President Siad Continues Visit; Husayn Makes Statement F 1 1/B8
YAR Foreign Minister Arrives in Amman for Visit F 1 1/B8
Received by Husayn F 1 1/B8
Newspapers Comment on Breakdown of Egyptian-Israeli Talks F 2 1/B9
Amman Radio Defines Stand on Current Peace Talks F 3 1/B10

LEBANON

Sarkis Presides Over Cabinet Meeting 18 Jan G 1 1/B12
Paper Accuses Israel of Buying Land in Lebanon G 1 1/B12
[Kuwait AS-SIYASAH 12 Jan 78]
Explosion Reported at School in Al-Batrun G 1 1/B12

SYRIA

Al-Asad Receives Fatah Member Salah Khalaf H 1 1/B13
Al-Asad Receives Lebanese Phalangist Party Delegation H 1 1/B13
Khaddam Meets With YAR Foreign Minister al-Asnaj H 1 1/B13
Damascus Reports Recall of Egyptian Foreign Minister H 1 1/B13
Kalayfawi Confers With Libyan Industry Minister H 1 1/B13
Jordan's Senate Speaker Meets With Syrian Counterparts H 2 1/B14
Peace Partisans Meet With Hungarian Peace Delegation H 2 1/B14

NORTH AFRICA

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Saudi Education Minister I 1 1/C2
At-Turayki Returns to Tripoli After African Tour I 1 1/C2

MOROCCO

Complaint Sent OAU About Civilian Kidnaping I 1 1/C2

TUNISIA

Nouira Views Political Scene, Arab, African Issues I 2 1/C3
[Tunis L'ACTION 14 Jan 78]
Prime Minister Meets With Libyan Envoy I 6 1/C7

ISRAEL

Egyptian Delegation Withdrawn From Political Committee N 1 1/C8
Israeli Statement [POST 19 Jan 78] N 1 1/C8
Statement by Begin N 1 1/C8
Cairo Radio Reports Contacts N 2 1/C9
MENA on Egyptian Activities N 2 1/C9
Kamil Notifies Begin N 2 1/C9
Kamil Statement N 3 1/C10

Dayan Statement	N	3	1/C10
Further Dayan Comment	N	3	1/C10
Egyptian Spokesman's Statement	N	4	1/C11
Egyptian Delegation 'Stunned'	N	4	1/C11
Vance Telephones As-Sadat	N	4	1/C11
Vance Meeting With Begin	N	5	1/C12
Egyptians Report Concessions	N	5	1/C12
Further on 17 Jan Begin Speech	N	6	1/C13
POST Report [18 Jan 78]	N	6	1/C13
Begin Rejects Demands [YEDI'OT AHARONOT 18 Jan 78]	N	7	1/C14
Begin Meets Egyptian Journalist	N	7	1/C14
Jerusalem POST Report [19 Jan 78]	N	8	1/D1
HA'AREZ Reports Egyptian Proposal [18 Jan 78]	N	10	1/D3
Israeli Spokesman on 18 Jan Session	N	10	1/D3
Peres Comments on Developments	N	11	1/D4
Israeli Press Comment	N	12	1/D5
YEDI'OT AHARONOT Commentator [19 Jan 78]	N	13	1/D6
19 January Begin Speech	N	14	1/D7
Israel Undecided on Continuing Military Committee	N	19	1/D12
Begin Would Accept Carter Invitation to U.S. [YEDI'OT AHARONOT 19 Jan 78]	N	19	1/D12
Rabin: Begin, As-Sadat 'Passed Point of No Return'	N	19	1/D12
Allon: Begin Plan Too Rushed, Concedes Too Much [DAVAR 19 Jan 78]	N	20	1/D13
Minister Burg Comments on Future of Jerusalem	N	21	1/D14
RAKAH Member, Cypriot Arrested on Security Charges [POST 19 Jan 78]	N	21	1/D14
Poll Says 48 Percent Favor Begin's Activities [HA'AREZ 19 Jan 78]	N	23	1/E2
POST: Alma II Has More Oil Than Israel Needs [19 Jan 78]	N	23	1/E2

IRAN

Communique Issued After Nigerian Delegation's Visit	R	1	1/E3

SOUTH ASIA

INDIA

Shah Commission Orders Prosecution of Mrs Gandhi	S	1	1/E4
USSR Envoy to Indian Ocean Talks Meets With Vajpayee	S	2	1/E5
Government Announces February State Elections	S	2	1/E5

PAKISTAN

Haq Inaugurates Romanian-Assisted Oil Refinery	S	2	1/E5
Joint Commission Meets	S	3	1/E6
BRIEFS: Afgan-Soviet Contract; Sri Lankan Envoy to Nepal; Loan to Sri Lanka	S	3	1/E6

JAN 27 1978

I Ken 856-B-6 PrEx 7.10:FBIS-MEA-78-13

FBIS-MEA-78-13
Thursday
19 January 1978
Vol V No 13

DAILY REPORT

CONTIN

COMPLETED
ORIGINAL

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

FROM BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Available for Distribution
From NTIS

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

This publication contains current news and commentary monitored by FBIS from foreign broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, and periodicals. Items are processed from the first or best available source; it should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign-language sources are translated by FBIS. Those from English-language sources are transcribed, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [ ] are supplied by FBIS. Labels such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how FBIS processed the information from the original. Names rendered phonetically or in transliteration are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clearly heard but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source.

Users of this publication may cite FBIS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying it as the secondary source. For example: "FBIS reports that Radio Moscow announced . . ." or "FBIS has monitored a broadcast from Hanoi which says . . ."

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

VOP CRITICIZES VANCE SPEECH IN JERUSALEM

JN181924Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1445 GMT 18 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Under the headline "The United States Heads the Enemies of Our People and Nation," the Political Editor of the Palestinian news agency, WAFA, says: The speech by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance at the opening session of the Political Committee, which is convening in Jerusalem between a U.S.-Egyptian political delegation [as heard] and an Israeli delegation, indicates that the policy of the United States--which has continuously been hostile to our Palestinian people's hopes, aspirations and struggle to establish their independent state and right to self-determination--continues to mark time. This policy is clearly developing for the worse, contrary to what suspect and agent information media have tried and are trying to reiterate to the effect that the United States has changed its position.

A look at the speech made by the U.S. Secretary of State enables us to (?see) this unchanged U.S. stand which is hostile to the Palestinian people and which is attempting to bypass, even to (?deny), the existence of this people. This confirms the aggressive nature of imperialism and clearly reveals that the claws of imperialism are increasing in sharpness due to the concessions being made by (?weak) politicians who do not see beyond their noses.

If it is correct to say that the principles announced by the U.S. Secretary of State at the opening session constitute a groundwork for negotiations, then these principles will undergo more and more amendments, leading to an end known only to those (?defeatists) who are holding negotiations on something which is not their right to negotiate on.

The Palestinian people, who have constantly and arduously struggled to bring about their sacred objectives of liberation, self-determination and establishment of an independent Palestinian state, will not bow down to the conspiratorial policy being implemented by the United States. Our people and their pioneer revolution, under the leadership of the PLO, will continue to view U.S. policy as an imperialistic and aggressive policy aimed not only against the Palestinian people but also against all struggling peoples in the entire world. Our people will continue their firm struggle against U.S. imperialism, its designs and all forms of plotting, relying upon a broad front of allies and friends in the Arab area, and a front of friends and allies in the world, primarily the Soviet Union.

VOP SAYS HUSAYN WORKS TO FOLLOW AS-SADAT'S PATH

JN181910Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1430 GMT 13 Jan 78 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Prompted by its desire to see to the success of the direct negotiations between Egypt and the Zionist entity, and because it is the next party in line to sign a separate solution with the Zionist enemy after the As-Sadat regime, Jordan has officially asked the United States and five European states, namely, France, Britain, West Germany, Italy and Belgium--to assume their responsibilities with regard to the peace talks in the Middle East.

Jordanian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hasan Ibrahim summoned the ambassadors of the above-mentioned six states and conveyed to them Jordan's desire that their governments intervene in the current talks in the Middle East in order to remove the difficulties on the path to, what he termed, "just peace." This great concern by the Husayn regime over the success of the direct negotiations between the As-Sadat regime and the Zionist entity is also revealed in a statement which Husayn himself made yesterday.

In an interview with French television, the King said: We will join the peace talks as soon as Israel declares its intentions. King Husayn announced in the same interview that there was complete agreement between him and As-Sadat on everything connected with the current contacts between Egypt and Israel concerning, what he termed, the "achievement of peace." It seems clear from King Husayn's statements and the activities of his regime that he is the one most interested in the success of the direct Egyptian-Zionist talks. He considers these negotiations a precious opportunity to cover up his previous traitorous acts and to open the door before him so he can proceed with his capitulatory policy in the future.

King Husayn's regime is said to be playing a moderating role in the Arab-Israeli confrontation, to use a famous U.S. expression in describing this regime. We say King Husayn's regime is now moving restlessly in all directions--sometimes appealing to one side and sometimes to the other--in order to bring about the success of the direct negotiations between Egypt and the Zionist entity. It is as if King Husayn's regime is the one which would fail and drown with the failure of these negotiations.

This is a very accurate analysis. If we were to suppose, for the sake of argument, that the Egyptian-Zionist negotiations had failed, the result would be the defeat of As-Sadat's defeatist capitulatory line and the intensification of the armed struggle to liberate the land by force. And it is no secret that King Husayn's regime is against the armed struggle policy.

Therefore, we say once again that King Husayn's regime is the party most interested in the success of the direct Egyptian-Zionist negotiations. The next step which would be taken to bolster the As-Sadat move would be the one King Husayn would take under orders from U.S. imperialism. This step would be doomed to fail, because it would aim against the Palestinian question and the rights of the Palestinian people which are defended by the rifles and the masses of the revolution.

IRAQI, SYRIAN OFFICIALS REPORTEDLY TO MEET

NC190850Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0747 GMT 19 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 19 January--In a dispatch from Baghdad, the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS carries a report citing knowledgeable Iraqi sources that an Iraqi official will soon depart for Algiers, where he will meet a Syrian official in the presence of an Algerian official to discuss Syrian-Iraqi relations within the framework of the proposed Steadfastness Front. The paper writes that this move is in response to the wish expressed by Algerian President Houari Boumediene during his latest visit to the two countries.

USSR REPORTEDLY TO INTERVENE IF ISRAEL ATTACKS SYRIA

NC190830Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0757 GMT 19 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 19 January--Citing reliable Arab diplomatic sources, the Kuwaiti newspaper AS-SIYASAH says today that the Soviet Union told Algerian President Houari Boumediene during his recent visit to Moscow that it was ready to intervene militarily in the Middle East in the event of an Israeli military attack on Syria. The sources added that an Israeli attack on southern Lebanon only would not be sufficient justification for Soviet intervention. The paper reports that both Moscow and Algiers are convinced that Israel may very soon launch a blitzkrieg on the northern front. It adds that the Soviet and Algerian commands discussed the possibilities in this event.

SAUDI ARABIA

AL-MADINAH PRAISES AS-SADAT'S RECALL OF NEGOTIATORS

NC190930Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0800 GMT 19 Jan 78 NC

[From Arabian Peninsula press review]

[Text] Doha, 19 January--The [Saudi] newspaper AL-MADINAH denounces Israel's method of negotiating. It says that the Egyptian president was right when he said in his latest interview with the Egyptian magazine OCTOBER that he had no hope of reaching an agreement with the Jews after he had seen them, sat with them and talked and debated with them.

The newspaper concludes its commentary by emphasizing that the dawn of Arab solidarity has broken anew with President as-Sadat's decision to recall his foreign minister from occupied Jerusalem. It adds: The sun of Arab contact on the widest scale shall rise tomorrow and all the Arabs, including President as-Sadat, shall stand in the same positions in which they were standing a little over 60 days ago. It will then be recorded in the annals of Arab history that the shortest period in which joint collective Arab action was absent has ended for good, God willing.

LONDON PAPER NOTES SAUDI OFFER TO BUY GAZA, WEST BANK

LD180955Y London FINANCIAL TIMES in English 18 Jan 78 p 3 LD

[Article by Ihsan Hijazi: "Saudis Offer U.S. Oil for Palestine State"]

[Text] Beirut, 17 January--Saudi Arabia was reported today to have offered to provide the United States with all the oil it needs on condition it finds a just solution for the Palestinian problem.

According to the MIDDLE EAST REPORTER, and English-language newsletter, the offer was made by King Khalid and Crown Prince Fahd to President Carter when he visited Riyadh at the beginning of this month.

The Saudis also offered to "buy the West Bank and the Gaza Strip from the Israelis if need be for the Palestinians to set up their independent state," the publication quoted informed travellers from Riyadh as saying.

President Carter visited the oil-rich kingdom as part of his eight-nation tour. A sharp disagreement developed between him and the Saudi leaders over U.S. support to the plan by Prime Minister Menahem Begin of Israel's plan for self-rule in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the informants said.

"Saudi leaders resented Carter's attempts to persuade them to express their open support for President as-Sadat's peace initiative," the travellers said, and added that King Khalid was opposed to As-Sadat outright, but Crown Prince Fahd took a moderate stand, warning against pushing the Egyptian president into concluding a bilateral agreement with the Israelis.

Despite the disagreement, Saudi officials, according to the informants, told President Carter that Saudi Arabia is prepared to raise its oil production "to any level that is feasibly possible" provided a just solution is found for the Palestinian problem. The Saudis were reported to have insisted on total Israeli withdrawal from Arab territory occupied in 1967 and the establishment of a Palestinian homeland.

Saudi leaders were quoted as telling Mr Carter that they were prepared to "pay as much as it is required to establish a homeland for the Palestinians, even if this means buying the West Bank and the Gaza Strip from the Israelis."

Information Minister's Denial

ID181905Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD

[Statement by Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani, Saudi minister of information--recorded]

[Text] The MIDDLE EAST REPORTER said that King Khalid and Prince Fahd offered to President Carter during his visit to Riyadh that the Saudi Kingdom should buy the West Bank and the Gaza Strip from Israel in order to establish a Palestinian state there. We also heard a denial of this report by the Foreign Ministry, which described it as completely unfounded.

It is regrettable that such reports are circulated particularly as Saudi Arabia has made and is making many efforts to enable the Palestinian brothers to regain their lawful rights in full. Saudi Arabia will not rest until this objective has been achieved for our Palestinian brothers. It is their legitimate right. Saudi Arabia, as is known, has done so much even shedding the blood of its sons on the battlefield, in order to regain this right. It will never in any way agree to purchasing Arab rights and land. We stress that these Arab lands and rights are not a matter for bargaining in any way [words indistinct]. It is regrettable that such unfounded reports are circulated. They could only be circulated by those who are not familiar with the nature of the Islamic faith and Arab ethics which reject bargaining over territory, right, dignity or values.

We will continue to work with all our strength to regain these rights. We shall render every possible diplomatic or other service to help make sure that this right is regained in full. We implore God to grant us all success in pursuing what is good and in understanding the real dimensions of such suspect reports which stem from many quarters which wage such a propaganda warfare with various objectives. The Saudi Kingdom will continue to maintain its consistent and firm attitude, defending with all its strength what is right and calling for wisdom and total vigilance while making every effort to close Arab ranks and unity and regain all our rights, about which we shall never accept any form of bargaining.

JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER SONODA CONTINUES VISIT

Meeting With Fahd

ID181452Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD

[Summary] Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister, this morning received Japanese Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda and the delegation accompanying him. The audience was attended by Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal. Mr Sonoda was also received by Prince Turko ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy minister of defense and aviation. They discussed the technical capability Japan could provide for Saudi Arabia.

Conclusion of Talks

ID182005Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD

[Excerpts] Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and Japanese Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda this evening held their final meeting in the talks between the two sides.

The SAUDI NEWS AGENCY reports that a press statement will be issued tomorrow on the results of the talks and the questions discussed, both those relating to bilateral relations and to international questions of common interest. The Japanese minister and his delegation are due to leave Riyadh tomorrow morning at the end of their visit to the kingdom which lasted several days and which took place at the invitation of the Saudi foreign minister.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said after the meeting that the talks dealt with several topics including the situation in the Middle East and the Arab issue. The two sides stressed that the Palestinian issue--the nub of the Middle East issue--should be solved on the basis of Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territory and compliance with the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. He said that the Japanese attitude toward the issue is praiseworthy.

He also said that among other things the two sides discussed bilateral relations, and these were fully reviewed. It was agreed that the joint Saudi-Japanese committee should hold its next session this year in Tokyo. Hisham Nazir, planning minister and chairman of the committee, will soon visit the Japanese capital to prepare for the committee meeting.

Speaking to SNA and television reporters, Prince Faysal said that Saudi-Japanese relations were deep and extensive, as Japan is the biggest importer of Saudi oil and is in the forefront of exporters to the kingdom. Therefore, it was natural that the talks should cover many issues relating to economic and trade cooperation. He said he hoped that these relations would extend further in the economic and development fields and other joint industries.

Asked by Japanese journalists about his expectations regardingthe current talks for peace in the Middle East, Prince Sa'ud Faysal said that there were contacts between the United States and the Western powers and other states which had an influence on Israel to convince them [words indistinct] with the president's moves for restoring peace to the region.

KYODO Report on Talks

OW190031Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0006 GMT 19 Jan 78 OW

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 18, KYODO--Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda explained Japan's diplomatic policy in his second round of meetings with Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal here Wednesday and said that negotiations for conclusion of a Sino-Japanese peace and friendship treaty were expected to be resumed at an early date. Sonoda and Sa'ud had held their first round of talks Tuesday.

Commenting on Japan-Soviet relations, the Japanese foreign minister told Sa'ud that Japan will not make any concessions in regards to the problem of the northern territories. He proposed the establishment of an exchange center to promote educational and cultural cooperation between Japan and Saudi Arabia.

Sa'ud, on his part, explained his country's oil policy. Commenting on prospects concerning oil prices, he said Saudi Arabia had been making efforts to check oil price increases, but noted that oil will turn into a sellers' market in the 1980's. Therefore, he said he believed it better to raise the oil prices on a small scale in stages.

Sonoda wound up his official schedule in Saudi Arabia with his second round of meetings with Sa'ud.

He met with Minister of Planning Hisham Muhyi al-Din Nazir, Petroleum Minister Ahmed Zaki Yamani, Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and other officials earlier Wednesday. Sonoda agreed with Saudi Arabian civil aviation officials on the resumption of negotiations for conclusion of a bilateral aviation pact. He also promised that Japan will give priority in making a study on allowing Saudi Arabian planes to fly into Japan when the new Tokyo international airport is opened by Narita late in March.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Sa'ud met Japanese newsmen prior to his second round of talks with Sonoda Wednesday and said Japan's role in international society for materialization of peace in the Middle East is extremely important. He said Japan should cooperate with the U.S., which has influence over Israel, for attainment of lasting peace in the Middle East. Sa'ud also said Japan's technological cooperation is extremely important for the industrialization and development of his country.

Further Details on Talks

OW190229Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0046 GMT 19 Jan 78 OW

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 18, KYODO--Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda Wednesday told Saudi Arabian leaders that the Japanese Government will assist construction of a petrochemical complex in Saudi Arabia provided it is a paying enterprise. The Japanese foreign minister, who had arrived in Riyadh the previous day on the last leg of his tour of the Middle East, conferred with Saudi Arabian Minister of Planning Hisham Muhyi al-Din Nazir and Petroleum Minister Ahmed Zaki Yamani in succession, and paid a courtesy call on Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz the same day.

Foreign Minister Sonoda told the Saudi planning minister that the Japanese Government was prepared to turn the construction of petrochemical combines in Saudi Arabia into a national project, if it proved to be paying. The Mitsubishi group, which first planned this project shortly after the oil crisis in 1973, later announced its decision to give up the plan on the ground it would not be financially sound. This led to the growth of Saudi Arab distrust. Foreign Minister Sonoda also proposed to hold a meeting of the Japan-Saudi Arabia joint committee, which has not met for 2 years, within this year, and discuss joint enterprises and a project for the desalination of seawater.

With Petroleum Minister Yamani, Foreign Minister Sonoda held discussions in depth, with major emphasis on the problems connected with petroleum and other resources. Asked about the prospects for the future of petroleum production in Saudi Arabia, Yamani replied that technological cooperation and assistance in industrialization by advanced nations are necessary for the expansion of petroleum production. He emphasized that Saudi Arabia wants to guarantee stable petroleum supply to the nations which will offer such cooperation and assistance. He also expressed the opinion that Japan and other advanced nations should endeavor to halt inflation if they want to curb the rise in petroleum prices.

Paying a courtesy call on Crown Prince Fahd, Foreign Minister Sonoda handed the Saudi Arabian prince Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda's personal letter to King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and exchanged opinions mainly on peace in the Middle East and the petroleum question.

The foreign minister was scheduled to confer also with Commerce Minister Sulayman al-'Abd al-'Aziz as-Sulayyim and Minister of Industry and Power Ghazi 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Qusaybi, and hold another round of talks with Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal within the same day, to wind up the whole official schedule of his visit to the Middle East.

Sonoda Press Conference

OW190403Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0346 GMT 19 Jan 78 OW

[Excerpts] Riyadh, Jan 19, KYODO--Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda said here Wednesday he will recommend to Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda that he visit Middle East countries, including Egypt, to tighten relations between them and Japan. Meeting the press at the end of his four-nation tour of the Middle East, Sonoda said the trip was both "significant and fruitful." Sonoda said he found, through his talks with Arab leaders, that the present talks between Egypt and Israel are the only way to peace in the Middle East and Japan will do its best for their successful conclusion.

Sonoda made it clear that Japan will step up its economic cooperation with non-oil-producing countries of the Middle East, including Egypt. Increase aid to such countries was proposed to him earlier by Saudi Arabia, he said. Sonoda said he did not go deep into the problem of oil during the trip as he believed it advisable for oil-producing and oil-consuming nations to cooperate to develop an alternative energy source, deal with the present economic crisis and establish a new world economic order.

RADIO SAYS BEGIN'S ATTITUDE INCONSISTENT WITH PEACE

LD172140Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Jordan's King Husayn has proposed that the West Bank and the Gaza Strip be placed under the supervision of an international body in such a manner that the Palestinians will be able to determine their own fate.

There is no doubt that the present stage through which the question of Arab-Israeli conflict is passing is a decisive and highly serious stage. This is a natural result of the Israeli proposals which are in no way acceptable to the Arabs. As the Jordanian monarch pointed out in a French television interview shown last night, the success or failure of the current efforts depends on Israel accepting two principles: withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and the Palestinians' right to self-determination.

But at present, all indications clearly point out Israel's unwillingness to respond to reality, and also its persistence in clinging to [words indistinct] which are inconsistent with peace. This is exactly what British Prime Minister James Callaghan, who recently met Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat, warned Israel against yesterday, when he told the House of Commons that it was more important to Israel to reach a peace treaty which is internationally accepted, without keeping some territory. The British prime minister warned that the peace talks were passing through a very critical stage.

The Egyptian-Israeli Political Committee, as it is known, is meeting today in the occupied territory with the participation of the foreign ministers of Egypt, Israel and the United States. It is meeting amid signs which do not encourage one to refer to the possibility of positive results. Egypt insists on Israel's withdrawal from all the territory it occupied in 1967, while Israel is (?trying) to keep the settlements which have been built in the occupied Arab territory. Observers believe that because viewpoints and attitudes vary, the talks will take place in a difficult atmosphere which would call on the United States to intervene by putting pressure on Israel. But the statement by the U.S. secretary of state, that he did not expect tangible results [words indistinct] that his government (?is not willing) to exercise any pressure on Israel.

POLITICAL COMMITTEE DELEGATION RECALLED FROM JERUSALEM

NC181735Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1653 GMT 18 Jan 78 NC

[Text] In the name of God the Merciful and Compassionate, gentlemen: President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has now issued instructions to Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil, who is heading Egypt's delegation to the Political Committee meetings in Jerusalem, to return to Cairo immediately since it has become clear from following up on the Israeli stands and the statements made by Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan that they are all aimed at weakening [tamiyi'] the situation and presenting partial solutions which cannot lead to the establishment of a durable, just and overall peace in the Middle East.

President as-Sadat has taken this decisive step so that the negotiations would not continue to revolve in a vicious circle or to deal with peripheral aspects and move from one aspect, which has not been completely discussed to another aspect which is not under discussion, and so that the negotiations would not be surrounded by ambiguous matters that do not serve the aims of the discussions.

Egypt's position has been clear and frank from the beginning of the peace initiative. The Egyptian position has not changed at all in order to avoid any outbidding. It was hoped that the other side would respond to this clarity with similar clarity. Frank and straightforward postions are needed to insure the achievement of a solution that would realize the hopes of millions of people in the world for an unshakable peace. Any other method is no longer acceptable after the bold peace initiative.

Egypt declared its principled position from the first moment. Egypt has adopted this position during its struggle for the past 8 years. It is based on the need for Israel's withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied after 5 June 1967, including Jerusalem, and the recognition of the legitimate rights, including the right of self-determination, of the Palestinian people, who were rendered homeless as a result of aggression for about half a century.

If the world conscience has endorsed the correctness of these principles for a solution because these principles agree with justice, the principles of international law, and international conventions, it is no longer acceptable that bargaining, outbidding, and the wasting of time and energy should be the way to achieve a solution. If the world Jews have been dispersed and rendered homeless, this is no reason for them to render the Palestinians homeless and make them live under occupation as the price for the sufferings of the Jews.

If Israel imagines that a settlement here and a settlement there, or an airfield here and an airfield there, are stonger guarantees for the achievement of its security than its neighbors being convinced to live with it in peace, it prefers peace imposed by the force of arms over peace stemming from a conviction regarding the benefits of peace. Israel's small size and the nearness of its territory to Arab territory is not a phenomenon peculiar to Israel, and it cannot be a justification for Israel to impose the method of maintaining tension in the area on the pretext of defending itself or protecting its existence form destruction.

The countries of Europe border each other and even interlink with each other. But this does not prevent the neighboring and interlinking states from living in peace, away from the fear of war and destruction.

Many states of the world, including those of Europe, have passed through periods of hatred and bitterness worse than that which has resulted from the Arab-Israeli battles.

In making this decision Egypt considers it as part of its clear and frank position with regard to this situation. It leaves the assessment of the matter to the world conscience, considering itself free from responsibility for the possibilities of failure which it did not cause and for the frustration of the hopes of the millions of people for which it was not the cause in any way or manner.

At any rate, Egypt has passed through many ordeals throughout its long history and overcome them. It will not accept the method of deception, maneuver, and outbidding becasue this was not Egypt's objective in the initiative of its courageous president and leader. The aim of the initiative was to spare bloodshed and stop peace from remaining a demand that is impossible to achieve.

The peace which Egypt is seeking is first and foremost peace for the area and the whole world. In what it did Egypt has perhaps given all it can. A just, comprehensive, and honorable peace will always be Egypt's desire and the security of the region will be its aim in order to achieve security for mankind in this age in which we live.

Gentlemen, President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has called the People's Assembly to an extraordinary session at 1130 on Saturday, 21 January 1978 to present all the facts of the situation to the nation's representatives.

Military Meetings To Continue

NC182052Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2033 GMT 18 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Gentlemen, we have received the following: As soon as U.S. President Carter heard of the crisis which has occurred in the peace negotiations in Jerusalem and the decision to recall the Egyptian foreign minister, he contacted President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat by telephone at 2130 today. Their conversation lasted more than 10 minutes.

President Carter asked about the work of the Political Committee and the reasons for making this decision. President as-Sadat explained the situation to him and told him what Israel is resorting to: submitting unacceptable proposals and expressing viewpoints that conflict with the requisites of peace in the area.

President Carter asked whether it would be possible for the Political Committee to continue its work for 1 or 2 days. President as-Sadat explained to him that it has been realized through the atmosphere of the negotiations that Israel wants the land, not peace--which makes the negotiations futile. However, regarding the possibility of the Political Committee resuming its work, this is possible if Israel changes its position and its views.

President Carter asked that the Military Committee continue its work after President as-Sadat had issued a decision halting its meetings. President as-Sadat agreed out of appreciation for President Carter's attitude and the attention he devotes to peace. The committee will meet beginning this Saturday in Cairo.

The radio has learned that U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance will contact President as-Sadat from Jerusalem tonight.

POLITICAL COMMITTEE DELEGATION RETURNS TO CAIRO

NC190600Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 19 Jan 78 NC

[Text] At 0350 today Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil and the members of the Egyptian delegations to the meetings of the Political Committee in Jerusalem returned to Cairo on President as-Sadat's instructions.

Spokesman's Statement

NC190743Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT 19 Jan 78 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 19 January--Dr Mursi Sa'd ad-Din, official spokesman of the Egyptian delegation to the Jerusalem talks, has stated that the Egyptian-Israeli talks in the Political Committee were halted on the instructions of President Anwar as-Sadat, who did not agree to extend the Egyptian delegations stay in Jerusalem 2 more days and insisted that the delegation return unless there was a change in the attitude of the Israeli side.

In a statement he made on arrival at Cairo airport at 0400 today, Mursi Sa'd ad-Din said that the general atmosphere of the talks was "disturbed" as a result of the statements made by some Israeli officials.

The official spokesman said that the talks may be resumed if there is a noticeable change in the intransigent attitude of the Israeli side, especially on the Palestinian question, the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, complete withdrawal, and the problem of the settlements which the Israeli side insists on maintaining.

Mursi Sa'd ad-Din praised the attitude of the U.S. side in the Political Committee. This attitude, he said, caused a change in some aspects of the Israeli position. He added that Cyrus Vance's visit to Egypt Friday is part of this effective attitude of the U.S. delegation.

MUBARAK: EGYPT 'COMPLETELY REJECTS' WEIZMAN PLAN

NC190734Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0645 GMT 19 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 19 January--Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has emphasized that Egypt will not give up a single inch of its international borders and that it completely rejects the plan which Israeli Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman is reportedly to bring with him to Egypt for an exchange of territories.

Israel has been saying that it will propose to Egypt that the Israeli settlements remain in Sharm ash-Shaykh and near Eilat and Rafah in return for Israel's abandonment of the Red Sea coast.

In a statement to the newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH, the vice president said that Egypt rejects Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan's statement that both sides should make some concessions. If Israel really wants peace Egypt cannot possibly renounce its territory, he said. He added that if Israel wishes the Arabs to recognize its presence in the area then Egypt cannot renounce the Palestinian people's rights. He said that peace and the occupation of territory and the loss of the Palestinian people's rights do not go together.

Husni Mubarak concluded his statement by saying that President Anwar as-Sadat will put all the facts before the Egyptian people.

He will also inform the Arab nation of all the details of the situation in the speech he will deliver to the People's Assembly on Saturday, the day after tomorrow. In his speech, the president will deal with all phases of the peace initiative and Israel's evasive actions and its attitudes, which threaten peace.

PRESS, RADIO EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR RECALL DECISION

Press Unanimity Cited

NC1907402 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 19 Jan 78 NC

[Press review]

[Text] Today's papers give prominence on their front pages and in banner headlines to President as-Sadat's decision to recall the Egyptian negotiators from Jerusalem immediately. The newspapers are unanimous in noting that, as asserted in the statement broadcast to the world yesterday by Information and Culture Minister 'Abd al-Mun'im as-Sawi, Egypt has emphasized the following facts:

That President as-Sadat made this firm decision to stop the negotiations from going around in a vicious circle or branching out into peripheries or shifting from a subject not yet fully covered in the discussions to a subject that was not even raised;

That if the world conscience acknowledges the principles Egypt upholds as bases for settlement--which are complete withdrawal, fulfillment of the Palestinian right to self-determination, and the return of Arab Jerusalem--then Egypt leaves it to the world conscience to assess the situation after this decision, and disclaims any responsibility for a failure that it has not caused;

That if world Jewry was displaced for reasons that the Arabs had nothing to do with, there is no point in displacing the Palestinians through Israeli occupation as a price for the sufferings of the Jews;

That Israel still imagines that a settlement here and a settlement there or an airport here and an airport there is better than insuring its security by having its Arab neighbors accept it;

That the small area of Israel is not a phenomenon confined only to Israel nor a justification for expansion in the area on the pretext of defending itself or protecting its existence, as there are many states in the world smaller than Israel and they are neighbors living in peace without sensitivities or fear.

Commenting on this important topic AL-AKHBAR says: It was necessary to adopt this firm stand and instruct the Egyptian delegation to the Political Committee meetings to return immediately from Jerusalem, since Begin stood up during the dinner banquet, which was supposed to be a diplomatic occasion for greetings and courtesy to speak in the language of war and to declare that Israel's return to the 1967 borders and the re-division of Jerusalem cannot achieve peace, and that the right of self-determination constituted a threat of perpetuating the events of the last 30 years.

Furthermore, at a time when the Military Committee was scheduled to meet in Cairo today to discuss the question of settlements, Begin told the Egyptian journalists that no Israeli government or prime minister can give up the Israeli settlements and that any cabinet which takes such a step would not remain in office more than 24 hours.

AL-AKHBAR adds: It was not just what Begin said. As we said before, all indications on the Israeli side have been that the Israelis do not want peace and that they will never be free from their aggressive nature to respond to the call of peace and to work for the establishment of peace. They are still living in the distant past and in the dreams of the promised land, and their heads are still full of illusions about an Israel extending from the Nile to the Euphrates.

Radio Commentary

NC182120Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 18 Jan 78 NC

["We and the World" program: "The Need Which Makes Recall of the Egyptian Delegation From the Political Committee Meetings in Jerusalem Imperative"]

[Text] It is with the same firmness with which President Anwar as-Sadat began his initiative along a direct, frank and sincere course that he instructed the foreign minister, who was heading the Egyptian delegation to the Political Committee meetings in Jerusalem, to return to Cairo immediately. This was natural because the statement which were made by Menahem Begin and Moshe Dayan were tantamount to an advance one-sided declaration of intent. The statements made clear all the attempts aimed at weakening the situation. In addition, all the Israeli attempts at bargaining, steering the discussions into arguments over self-evident matters and the committee into labyrinths of trivia were aimed at losing track of the real goal of the discussions. The real goal is returning the land which was occupied in 1967 and restoring the Palestinian legitimate rights, including the right to self-determination.

Since the direct and frank line which As-Sadat has always followed in his decisions does not tolerate such circuitous ways--which revolve in a vicious circle or deal with peripheral aspects that are left without solution in order to move on to other peripheral aspects or to any aspect that is not under discussion out of a desire to place obstacles in the way of the negotiations by surrounding them with ambiguous matters, as was noted in the statement issued by Information and Culture Minister 'Abd al-Mun'im as-Sawi--and since the serious course which President as-Sadat has been following does not tolerate such devious ways, he issued his decision calling on the head of the Egyptian delegation to the Political Committee to return to Cairo from Jerusalem.

In his speech from the rostrum of the Israeli Knesset, President as-Sadat warned Israel against the consequences of insisting on following a course that is contrary to the international resolutions. He did not hesitate to reveal to all the Israeli people the demands which Egypt has been calling for and from which it will not move one inch.

However, the Begin government has continued the same course it had been following. The Begin government has always claimed that peace could be achieved by mutual concessions. Such talk is not understood. The occupier can concede his occupation and not call this a concession, but the one whose land has been occupied cannot concede anything because this would mean conceding his right to the other side.

Begin has followed this course. While the Political Committee was meeting in Jerusalem and while a declaration was made about the need to provide the appropriate climate for these meetings by not issuing provocative statements, Begin came up with the statement that if he were to give up any Israeli settlement it would mean his government would resign. Furthermore, Begin insists on calling the West Bank Judea and Samaria. Although it appears to be just a difference in names, it hides an ambiguous stand because it means that Begin considers the West Bank liberated and not occupied territories.

Thus, because of all this and because Egypt under the leadership of its president insists that the rights of the Palestinians and the lands which were occupied in 1967 should not be the subject of any bargaining, it has made its decision. In making this decision, Egypt considers it as part of its clear and frank position in confronting the situation. It leaves the assessment of the matter to the world conscience, considering itself free from responsibility for the possibilities of failure which it did not cause.

In less than 2 months the entire world has seen the true Israeli stand. It has also seen the frank Egyptian stand, which seeks peace if it is based on justice but which will not accept a peace which does not restore the Palestinians' rights and establish a homeland for them or return to the Arabs their land. It has been the fate of Egypt to shoulder the battles of war and peace alike. Egypt will not abandon its role aimed at restoring the land and the rights.

ISRAELI JOURNALISTS IN CAIRO REPORTED RESTRICTED

TA181940 [Editorial report TA] Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew at 1933 GMT on 18 January carries a report from correspondent in Cairo 'Amiram Nir. At the end of his report, Nir says: "The most worrying sign of the intensity of the drama now unfolding was felt by us, the journalists at the Shepherds Hotel next to the Nile in Cairo. The senior officer responsible for our security informed us an hour ago that we were forbidden to leave the hotel until further notice. According to him, the reason for this is fear about a sudden change in public opinion against us."

INFORMATION MINISTER REPORTS ON CABINET MEETING

NC181828Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1744 GMT 18 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 January--The cabinet met today under Prime Minister Mamduh Salim to discuss a number of topics in the domestic and foreign fields.

After the meeting, which lasted some 5 hours, information and Culture Minister 'Abd al-Mun'im as-Sawi reported that at the beginning of the session Prime Minister Mamduh Salim explained the political situation in light of the negotiations now underway in Jerusalem to achieve an overall, just solution to the Middle East problem and achieve peace in the Middle East.

The minister explained that following this extensive explanation and the participation of several cabinet members in pointing out the various aspects of the situation, the cabinet realized that Egypt's delegation to the Jerusalem talks is facing obstacles placed in the way by the other side.

It realized that Israel is being evasive in order to stealthily impose conditions which are incompatible with the desire for peace or the requirements of peace and which do not insure the achievement of security for the world, which has been looking forward to the achievement of peace for the Middle East in a way that would have an effect on the security, prosperity and stability of the world.

The information minister added that Gen 'Abd al-Ghani al-Jamasi, deputy prime minister and war minister, dealt with the military situation. He explained to the cabinet in detail the proceedings of the Military Committee meetings and showed on maps the positions on which the two sides have not so far agreed. 'Abd al-Mun'im as-Sawi said that General al-Jamasi also explained the points on which the two sides have agreed and affirmed that when the Military Committee resumes its meetings, discussions will continue on the matters over which differences have arisen in order to reach a just agreement which would achieve security guarantees in the area without encroaching in any way on a single inch of Sinai.

ADDITIONS TO AS-SADAT INTERVIEW WITH OCTOBER MAGAZINE

The following additions to the item titled "As-Sadat Grants Interview to OCTOBER Magazine," published in the 16 January Middle East & North Africa DAILY REPORT, D 1 to D 8, are supplied from the apparent text of the interview published in the 15 January issue of OCTOBER:

Page D 3, third paragraph, make read: ...not the Jews. If we tried to discuss this subject with the Jews they would remain silent and would then repeat to us the story of their long sufferings everywhere and say that it was necessary for the Arabs to understand them and accept them in the Middle East community. If we told...

Page D 5, last paragraph, make read: ...relentlessness from them. This would be a grave loss for Israel which it would not be able to make up for hundreds of years.

In the Book of Joshua the Torah tells us about a battle between the Jews and five other armies in which the sun and the moon came to a standstill so that the Jews could defeat their enemies.

The sun of peace has risen indeed, but the laws of nature cannot be suspended for the sake of Israel. If this happened 2,000 years ago, then this would be the second time. Israeli leaders--both politicians and men of religion--must calculate with both their minds and hearts, and they will find that in the final analysis their gains will be great. But Israel sows the wind and therefore it will only reap storms, as their Torah says.

Question: Israeli papers say from time to time that the Egyptians would be afraid of Israel or of the Jews if normal relations were restored between the two countries. They are surprised at how such a large population as ours can be afraid of such a small population as theirs. They believe that cultural contact between the two countries would result in wiping out the Egyptian personality. It's as if they are warning us.

Answer: There is a different purpose for this. There are people who do not desire peace, nor do they desire natural coexistence among peoples, because they want war to continue and hatred to continue to exist in order to gain from this. They prefer this...

MENA: ISRAELI DEFENSE MINISTER TO ARRIVE IN CAIRO 19 JAN

NC190722Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0621 GMT 19 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 19 January--Israeli Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman will arrive in Cairo today.

ASHRAF MARWAN LEAVES FOR SAUDI ARABIA 18 JAN

NC181439Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1418 GMT 18 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 January--Dr Ashraf Marwan, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Arab Military Industries Organization, left Cairo this afternoon for Jidda on a brief visit to Saudi Arabia.

SUDANESE DEFENSE MINISTER ARRIVES IN CAIRO 18 JAN

NC182123Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2050 GMT 18 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 January--Lt Gen Bashir Muhammad 'Ali, Sudanese defense minister, arrived in Cairo from Geneva this evening for a brief visit to Egypt. He was met at the airport by Maj Gen Rifa'at Wahbi, assistant war minister, and Muhammad Mirghani, Sudanese ambassador in Cairo.

U.S. WARNED AGAINST PRETENDING TO SEEK PEACE

LD181402Y Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 16 Jan 78 p 6 LD

[Ra'id 'Attar article: "A Pentagon Secret"]

[Excerpt] If it is true that the U.S. administration is still reluctant to make a decision regarding the "extremely serious study" which we are revealing today for the first time, then the hope of a just peace acceptable to us and to coming generations will be as dim as the light of a candle in the darkness of the international political jungle.

But if an American decision has actually been made then we must immediately prepare the Arab masses psychologically and historically for the worst consequences to come.

The study in question was prepared before As-Sadat turned the tables against all those plotting against the Arab nation but it has now been put before the highest U.S. echelons. The study poses the following strategic question: Is permanent peace between the Arabs and Israel in the interest of the United States.

Unfortunately, the answer to the question is that such a peace would weaken Israel and, therefore, compound the dangers to U.S. strategic interests in the area and thus enable the Soviet Union to swallow it up. Therefore, the answer is the United States must overtly pose as endeavoring to achieve peace but covertly seek to hamper it because its interests lie in the creation of an alliance to preserve Western interests, whose bulwarks would be only Turkey, Iran, and Israel. Under no circumstances should this Iranian-Turkish-Israeli alliance be substituted by another that could lead to peaceful solutions in the area such as, for example, Saudi Arabia and Egypt joining Iran and Turkey as the bulwarks of confronting the anticipated Soviet advance.

This would mean seriously reducing the role of Israel. This is why Israel is now secretly insisting upon President Carter maintaining his image before the Arabs by posing as endeavoring to realize peace but without really making a decisive decision.

It has been rumored in highly placed Western political circles that U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale has adopted Israel's view of destroying the peace initiative. This is why Waldheim, under Soviet insistence and through covert American-Zionist encouragement, declared that he will not attend the Jerusalem meetings that will open tomorrow.

The secret study in question suggests conducting "secret" contacts with Saudi Arabia, Jordan and the Arab amirates with a view to making them join the forces that are seeking to destroy the peace initiative by claiming that the establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank would enable the Soviet Union to obtain a new foothold with the help of the Palestinians,which will pose a threat to these regimes.

We are awaiting President Carter's decision regarding this plan. If he has not yet taken a decision, then we are ready to conduct a study that will prove two things to him:

First, the impossibility of playing this "game" after it has been exposed and after it has bedevilled the area for 30 years; and second, that either he will join the list of "American presidents whose name is soon forgotten" because of the damage and destruction that will befall his country's interests, or he will become the American president who will save his country, the Jewish nation, and the world nations--and not just the Arab nations--from dangers whose consequences only God knows.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MARITIME SHIPPING HELD

LD131428Y Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 11 Jan 78 p 6 LD

[Text] Mahmud Riyad, Arab League secretary general, yesterday opened the international conference on maritime transport, the first conference of its kind to be held in the Middle East. Some 300 delegates representing 25 countries are attending the 2-day conference which is being held in the Arab Socialist Union's headquarters.

In his speech, the Arab League secretary general stressed the need to develop means of maritime transport, particularly with regard to the purchase of oil tankers, and called for a program for the training of technicians in order to create an Arab maritime transport fleet. He also called for the drawing up of technical plans that would contribute to the develop of maritime shipping in the whole world.

Speaking at the meeting, 'Abd as-Sattar Mujahid, Egyptian minister of transport, communications and maritime transport, welcomed the delegates who represent the biggest meeting in the field of maritime transport held in the Middle East and said that there is vast potential in the Arab area with regard to world maritime transport and merchant navy. The minister explained the role Egypt is playing in this field, particularly with regard to the implementations of projects for the Suez Canal development and the building of ports and docks to serve the world economy.

The conference agenda includes three topics: oil tankers, Arab participation in maritime transport, and the expansion of maritime trade in the Middle East and the means of participation by the Arab Economic Fund in easing the world shipping crisis as well as investments by the Arab Gulf states in the field of Arab maritime transport.

Engineer Ibrahim 'Abd al-Fattah, head of the telecommunications department, said that the conference is the first conference on international level to be attended by Arab and foreign experts. This, he said, would enable us to understand our problems clearly in order to tackle them. What concerns the Arabs at present is to develop Arab fleets, whether for ordinary transportation or oil transportation, on sound economic bases as well as the need to seek international assistance in organization and management and particularly the training of new cadres in the field of maritime transport.

PRESIDENT SIAD CONTINUES VISIT; HUSAYN MAKES STATEMENT

JN182005Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Jan 78 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn and Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre resumed official talks this afternoon in the guest house. His Majesty King Husayn reviewed the developments the Arab area is passing through and Jordan's stand toward current issues. The Somali president reviewed the situation in the Horn of Africa and Somalia's stand toward the Arab and African issues.

At the end of the talks His Majesty King Husayn made a statement. He said that the situation in the Horn of Africa is serious and delicate and the world must not ignore it or let it deteriorate. All the Arab countries must support fraternal Somalia which is an Arab country being subjected to a direct danger that might spread and expose the entire area to turmoil.

YAR FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN AMMAN FOR VISIT

JN181320Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Jan 78 JN

[Text] YAR Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj today arrived in Amman for a 2-day visit to Jordan during which he will meet with King Husayn and a number of high-ranking Jordanian officials.

In a statement to the JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY tdoay, Al-Asnaj said that the YAR highly appreciates King Husayn's and the Jordanian Government's efforts to unify the Arab ranks.

Speaking of the aim of his visit to Jordan, Al-Asnaj said: It is natural for Arab officials to exchange views on affairs with a view to intensifying efforts during this delicate phase to strengthen Arab solidarity and to deal with anything that may weaken the Arab nation and deflect it from its real aims.

Al-Asnaj said: We believe that every day Israeli policy further unmasks its real face, which is to return the Arab territories and not recognize the legitimate rights of the confrontation countries and the Palestinian people.

The YAR foreign minister was welcomed at Amman Airport by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hasan Ibrahim, Foreign Ministry Secretary General Kamal al-Humud and the heads of Arab diplomatic missions in Amman.

Received by Husayn

JN181640Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Jan 78 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn this evening received YAR Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj at the Royal Hashemite Court. Al-Asnaj conveyed to his majesty a message from Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi, chairman of the YAR Command Council. The message deals with the Arab endeavors to unify Arab ranks and achieve joint Arab action. It also deals with fraternal relations between the two countries and means of developing them. The meeting was attended by the YAR ambassador in Amman.

NEWSPAPERS COMMENT ON BREAKDOWN OF EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI TALKS

JN190759Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 19 Jan 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] The local newspapers this morning write editorially about the meetings of the Egyptian-Israeli Political Committee.

Under the headline "The Dangerous Possibilities of the Israeli Game," AD-DUSTUR says: Whether the halt of the Jerusalem negotiations is final or temporary the Egyptians and the Americans have of course come to understand the method of negotiation with Israel and to realize that they have to pass through long tunnels of evasion and stalling and to jump over many hurdles before they begin to discuss the substance of the problem, let alone advise a decisive remedy. It seems that President as-Sadat has reached the position he feared when he warned the Israelis at the outset that he would not allow the peace negotiations to turn into something similar to the negotiations on arms limitation which have been going on between Washington and Moscow for the past 25 years. If the Israelis began with Byzantine discussions conerning the self-evident truths of the issue such as the settlements which were forcibly set up in Sinai or the simple principle of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, how could one entertain any real hope for the establishment of a just and lasting peace?

AD-DUSTUR adds: The Israelis has shown the Egyptians and the Americans their long and complicated method. Thus President as-Sadat has done well to let the world know that he is not prepared to enter this deadly trap and that he means to have serious and responsible transactions--either a real peace in which there will be no conquerors and conquered or we go back to square one without any deception until God accomplishes what has been decreed.

Under the headline "Israel Understands One Language," AR-RA'Y says: For the thousandth time Israel yesterday confirmed that it does not understand the language of logic and reason and that its attitudes do not stem from mankind's cultured stands or from current international reality. All the Israeli stands belong to the age of fantasies, myths and obsolete fables. To confirm the truth about its method of dealing with others, Israel yesterday again closed the road to peace despite the many warnings issued by many quarters in the world, especially Jordan, concerning the perils resulting from Israel's insistence on wasting the opportunity for peace by means of the inflexible attitudes which revolve around expansion and settlements in the occupied Arab territories. This is in addition to its strange demand that the Arabs should submit to its conditions which impose a fait accompli. We have been certain of the outcome reached by the Egyptian-Israeli political committee but pan-Arab requirements dictate that the countries of our nation should have more cohesion than ever and that they should have united ranks in pooling Arab resources because the stage following the failure of the talks will open the way to Israel to impose a fait accompli. Will the Arabs come to perfect their knowledge of the only language in which Israel deals with the Arabs before it is too late and everything falls into ruin? We are today facing the options which Israel has carefully selected and prepared carefully and persistently, namely, either we accept kneeling under the Zionist canopy of humiliation or we muster a strong will and an effective force capable of safeguarding the Arab cause and the future of our cultured existence.

AMMAN RADIO DEFINES STAND ON CURRENT PEACE TALKS

JN182120Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Jan 78 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Jordan cannot bargain over the Palestinian territory and rights. If Jordan does participate in the negotiations to restore the land we lost in June 1967, all these territories and rights must be restored, but not to Jordan. They must be placed under international supervision until the Palestinian people determine their future in the occupied land.

With this complete clarity His Majesty King Husayn announced, on French television, Jordan's stand toward the Palestine issue at this serious stage the area is passing through. The area is now at a final and serious crossroads. If peace is not to be established on the basis of the principles of Resolutions 242 and 338, the results will affect the future of our area and the entire world.

Jordan, which is internationally empowered by Resolution 242 with the right to regain the occupied Palestinian territory, adheres more than ever before to the Palestinian people's right to determine their own national destiny by themselves and to choose the relations they want with their neighbors, in absolute freedom and without pressure or compulsion by any other party in the world. Thus this wise pan-Arab stand is not and cannot be opposed to the requirements of establishing peace or to the aspirations of the Palestinian Arab people. For this reason all efforts must be focused on enabling the Palestinian people to regain their land and rights, particularly their right to determine their future by themselves.

Israel, at the Political Committee meetings in occupied Jerusalem, still insists on the names it has given to the occupied West Bank. Thus we do not believe that it will adopt a more flexible stand toward the substance of the issue, that is, Israel's withdrawal from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the return of Arab sovereignty to occupied Arab Jerusalm and recognition of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. The reciprocal concessions which Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan made yesterday, after two meetings of the Political Committee, clearly indicate Israel's insistence on adhering to its well-known stands, particularly toward the Palestine issue.

If it is feasible to consider the issue of adjustments to the borders with an open mind, then that open mind must apply to all parties to the conflict, particularly the Israeli side. The Palestine issue must not be divided, underrated or denied absolutely, as happened in the declaration of Israel's intention following the Ismailia meeting. Also the expansionist settlement plans must not be described as part of the peace process.

Thus His Majesty King Husayn believes that the situation requires a frank declaration and a clear stand which does not tolerate bargaining. Jordan cannot bargain over Palestinian rights and territory. This principled stand must be clear to all parties, particularly as the declaration of intentions and principles on which the parties will proceed to peace is to be announced at this stage.

If the statement includes Israel's approval of the two basic principles provided for in UN Resolution 242, namely, withdrawal from all occupied Arab territory and recognition of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, the countries of the area will enjoy real peace for the first time and the world community will be relieved of a thorny and serious problem that has threatened its peace and security for the past 30 years.

If Israel is maneuvering to make President as-Sadat's initiative and U.S. efforts meaningless and to use them to serve its expansionist objectives--imposing peace based on settlements--such a peace will not last long. The state of no war, no peace, would be better than establishing peace which takes into consideration the expansionist ambitions of Israel in the conflict in the Middle East.

We believe that the United States bears a great ethical and moral responsibilty to bring about the success of the current efforts, through the means it has available as a big power and to keep these efforts free of the obstacles Israel places in the way of all initiatives to establish peace. We are very cautiously awaiting the issuance of the statement of intentions and to learn Israel's real stand toward the future of peace in the area. The area is waiting to see an active and positive U.S. effort to establish just peace which will insure the future of the area and will free the world from the danger of an eruption of the area again.

SARKIS PRESIDES OVER CABINET MEETING 18 JAN

NC181334Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Jan 78 NC

[Excerpts] At 0900 today His Excellency President Ilyas Sarkis met with Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign and Defense Minister Fu'ad Butrus. The meeting lasted about 2 hours. During the meeting Minister Butrus reviewed the talks he held with senior Syrian officials during his recent visit to Damascus.

After this meeting, President Sarkis moved to the cabinet room where he presided over the weekly cabinet session. At the conclusion of the cabinet meeting at 1400 today, Cabinet Secretary General Dr 'Umar Musayki made the following statement: At the beginning of the cabinet session, the cabinet heard a report by Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus on the results of his official visit to Damascus and his talks with senior officials there. Then the cabinet discussed topics on its agenda.

After the cabinet session Prime Minister Dr al-Huss said with regard to the meeting which preceded the cabinet session that they discussed the general situation in Lebanon and in the area and assessed the results of the foreign minister's visit to Damascus.

Asked whether the visit of Minister Butrus to Damascus was successful, he said: Yes, definitely.

Asked whether Minister Butrus' visit is a followup of the visit which his excellency paid to Damascus, Dr al-Huss said: There is no doubt that there is a connection between the two visits.

PAPER ACCUSES ISRAEL OF BUYING LAND IN LEBANON

LD161729Y Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 12 Jan 78 pp 1, 14 LD

[Text] The diplomatic correspondent writes: Well-informed Lebanese political sources have revealed that about 32 percent of the land in southern Lebanon has been indirectly sold to Israel through individuals and companies who--as it transpired later--are connected with an international firm operating with Israeli capital for Zionist objectives.

These Lebanese political sources say that it has been and still is difficult to halt the transfer of land in the south to Israeli ownership through such devious ways, because the method to which the international companies, which are linked to Israel, resort in acquiring such land is ostensibly legal. However, the seriousness of the matter lies in the following: 1) the steady increase in the transfer of land in the south to Israel ownership; 2) the knowledge by certain official quarters of these transactions and their inability to stop them; 3) the realization by all concerned that Israel's ambitions in the south are real, and therefore Israel is trying to achieve them through various means, including the purchase of land indirectly.

The sources pointed out that the difficulty of living conditions in southern Lebanon in the past 3 years has created conditions conducive to the sale of land by inhabitants of the area, particularly since large numbers of them moved to Beirut or emigrated to the gulf area. But it is certain that those who sold their land were not aware that they had sold it to Israel.

EXPLOSION REPORTED AT SCHOOL IN AL-BATRUN

NC162004Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1954 GMT 16 Jan 78 NC

[Excerpt] Beirut, 16 January--A general strike [words indistinct] was declared in the town of Al-Batrun in northern Lebanon following an explosion at a school in the town in which two students were killed and a number of persons were wounded.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES FATAH MEMBER SALAH KHALAF

JN191256Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 19 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--At 1230 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Salah Khalaf, member of the Fatah Central Committee, and Mahmud 'Abbas. The meeting was attended by Maj Gen Naji Jamil, member of the Ba'th Party National Command.

During the meeting, the discussion revolved around the Palestinian issue. A review was made of the continuing efforts of the front of steadfastness and resistance to deal with the Zionist-imperialist plot against the Arab nation and to confront the Egyptian regime's capitultory operation.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES LEBANESE PHALANGIST PARTY DELEGATION

JN190607Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 19 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--At 2115 yesterday President Hafiz al-Asad received a Lebanese Phalangist Party delegation made up of Political Bureau members Edmond Rizq, George Sa'adah, Karim Baqraduni and Joseph al-Hisham. The meeting was attended by Maj Gen Naji Jamil, Ba'th Party National Command member.

The discussion during the meeting revolved around the Lebanese situation and the current developments in the Arab area.

KHADDAM MEETS WITH YAR FOREIGN MINISTER AL-ASNAJ

JN191244Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 19 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--At 1100 today, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with YAR Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj. The meeting was attended by YAR Ambassador in Jidda Hamud al-Jayfi, the legal adviser to the YAR Command Council and the charge d'affaires in Damascus.

Al-Asnaj and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Damascus this morning for an official visit to Syria.

DAMASCUS REPORTS RECALL OF EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

JN182000Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 18 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Cairo--President of the Egyptian regime Anwar as-Sadat has summoned his Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil from the Zionist entity. The Egyptian information minister has said that it has become clear from following up the Israeli stands and the statements by Israeli officials that they are all aimed at making the discussions lukewarm [tamiyi'] and proceeding toward a deadlock.

Observers believe that the disagreement between the two sides is due to the fact that the Zionist side does not want to give up the settlements established in Sinai.

KHULAYFAWI CONFERS WITH LIBYAN INDUSTRY MINISTER

JN181455Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--At 1000 today, Prime Minister Maj Gen 'Abd ar-Rahman Khulayfawi received Jadallah 'Azzuz at-Talhi, the Libyan secretary of industry and minerals, and the members of his delegation. The meeting was attended by Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, Industry Minister Shutaywi Sayfu, and Minister of State for Planning Affairs Dr George Huraniyah.

'Abd as-S. ah bin Khayyal, the head of the Libyan Foreign Relations Office in Damascus, was also p. sent at the meeting.

Discussions during this meeting dealt with the situation in the Arab region following As-Sadat's visit to the occupied territory and his defeatist political line and also the need to implement the resolutions of the Tripoli conference to strengthen the front of steadfastness and resistance. The discussion also dealt with the development of relations between the two fraternal countries in various fields, especially the field of economic cooperation.

JORDAN'S SENATE SPEAKER MEETS WITH SYRIAN COUNTERPART

JN181539Y Amman JNA in Arabic 1457 GMT 18 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 18 January--Bahjat at-Talhuni, speaker of the Jordanian Senate and president of the Arab Parliamentary Union, held a series of consultations in Damascus today with Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi, speaker of the Syrian People's Assembly, Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the Palestine National Council. The talks dealt with preparing the agenda of the meetings of the Arab Parliamentary Union Council scheduled to be convened in Abu Dhabi early this year.

In a statement to the correspondent of the JORDAN NEWS AGENCY in Damascus, At-Talhuni stated that as a result of these consultations a preliminary draft for the council's agenda has been agreed on and will be submitted to officials of the UAE in its capacity as host country.

At-Talhuni further said that he reviewed with the speaker of the Syrian People's Assembly and the chairman of the Palestine National Council the proposals and letters he had received from the parliamentary speakers of Egypt, Tunisia and the UAE, on the meeting of the union's council.

At-Talhuni also said that he will pay a 2-day visit to Lebanon tomorrow, Thursday, to meet with the speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, Kamil al-As'ad, to exchange views with him on the council's draft agenda.

PEACE PARTISANS MEET WITH HUNGARIAN PEACE DELEGATION

JN161121Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 16 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--The first round of talks between the delegation of the National Council of the Peace Partisans Movement in Syria under George Saddiqini, chairman of the National Council, and the Hungarian peace delegation under Nandorne Sebestyen, president of the Hungarian National Peace Council [title as heard], was held last night in the meeting hall of the Ba'th Party National Command.

During the meeting, the two delegations reviewed the activities of the national councils in the two friendly countries. They also exchanged the views regarding the political situation in the area resulting from the Egyptian president's visit to occupied Jerusalem, the subsequent development to the visit and its adverse impact on the peace and security issue in the area and in the world. Their views were identical regarding all issues.

After welcoming the Hungarian peace delegation, Comrade Saddiqini briefed the visiting delegation on the current political situation in the area. He pointed out that the imperialist-Zionist conspiratorial activities have been intensified against the Arab liberation issue, the Palestinian cause and the just and comprehensive peace issue in the area. He reaffirmed Syria's firm and principled stand toward the question of an overall and just solution of the Middle East crisis. He also asserted that Syria rejects separate solutions and suspicious deals and absolutely condemns As-Sadat's capitulationist course.

Comrade Saddiqini explained that As-Sadat's visit to occupied Jerusalem did not take place spontaneously or accidentally, but as a result of a scheme that was concocted in the dark. He added that the policy of separate deals has no future because it basically ignores basic issues in the Arab-Zionist struggle, foremost of which is the Palestinian cause and the issue of liberating the occupied Arab territories.

Comrade Saddiqini stressed the importance of steadfastness and confrontation expressed by the summit conference in Tripoli. He also stressed the importance of coordination of the Arab struggle and the unified Arab stand for the sake of foiling the imperialist-Zionist plot and the policy of defeatism and capitulation being pursued by President as-Sadat.

Comrade Saddiqini also stressed the importance of unifying the Arab progressive and nationalist forces. He called for beefing up joint cohesion and work among these forces. He also called on all peace-loving forces in the world to intensify their solidarity with the just cause for which the Arab people are struggling. He also called on these forces to intensify their struggle against the imperialist-Zionist plot aimed against a just peace in the Middle East.

Comrade Saddiqini expressed thanks and appreciation to the Hungarian National Peace Council and the friendly Hungarian people for their solidarity with the just Arab cause.

Mrs Nandorne Sebestyen, president of the Hungarian National Peace Council and head of the delegation, expressed her thanks to the National Council of the Syrian Peace Partisans movement for inviting the Hungarian peace delegation to visit Syria and for the warm welcome accorded the delegation. She said that this visit comes as an expression of solidarity with and support for Syria's struggle. She noted the prominent role being played by Syria regarding imperialism and Zionism.

Mrs Sebestyen also noted the denunciation and condemnation expressed by public opinion in Hungary against As-Sadat's capitulationist policy. She said that it has become obvious to the peace partisans in Hungary and peace forces throughout the world that As-Sadat's policy and course threaten the issue of peace and security in the area and in the world. She added that this policy is bound to make the situation in the area worse and to sabotage sincere peace efforts. She also pointed out the dangers resulting from As-Sadat's policy for Arab solidarity. She said that it aimed at striking out against this solidarity, dismembering the Arabs, striking the Arab liberation movement and liquid liquidating the Palestinian cause. This policy also aims at foiling the Geneva conference and undermining a just and overall settlement, Mrs Sebestyen added.

Mrs Sebestyen pointed out the solidarity with and wide-scale support for Syria by the peace forces in Hungary and the world. She noted the campaign due to be launched in Hungary in solidarity with the Arab liberation cause and the Palestinian issue. She emphasized the two conditions of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East represented in the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the occupied Arab territories and recognition of the national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return, to determine their future and to set up their national and independent state.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES SAUDI EDUCATION MINISTER

LD190048Y Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, this afternoon received Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir, Saudi minister of education and personal envoy of King Khalid. The Saudi envoy handed brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi a private message from King Khalid. The meeting was attended by the liaison secretary, the education secretary, and the Saudi ambassador in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The Saudi minister of education and personal envoy of King Khalid left Tripoli International Airport this afternoon.

AT-TURAYKI RETURNS TO TRIPOLI AFTER AFRICAN TOUR

LD182312Y Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD

[Summary] The foreign secretary, Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, returned to Tripoli this afternoon after visits to Benin, Togo and Niger, where he had talks with officials on the consolidation of relations between the two countries.

MOROCCO

COMPLAINT SENT OAU ABOUT CIVILIAN KIDNAPING

LD182155Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD

[Excerpts] A group of Moroccan civilians was the subject of a treacherous attack on 11 January by mercenary gangs from Algeria. Naturally, immediately after the attack Morocco informed President Haj Omar Bongo, the current OAU president, the UN secretary general and the Arab League secretary general of the attack. Here is the text of the message which King Hassan II has sent to President Haj Omar Bongo:

On 11 January 1978 at 1030, on the road connecting Zhaq and Akka, two villages in our Moroccan Province of Tantan, 25 km from the Moroccan-Algerian border, an armed gang setting out from Algeria attacked two civilian trucks. On our part this treacherous attack which surprised us and which because of its ugliness cannot be described and cannot be understood, took place at a time when we and His Excellency President Moktar Ould Daddah accepted your invitation to hold an OAU extraordinary conference in Libreville to discuss the problem of our Sahara.

It is our right to ask whether the true objective of the attack is to abort your efforts and continuous work over a year for the creation of objective conditions for a constructive and fruitful dialog aimed at establishing the unity of our continent threatened by the illogical and irresponsible behavior of those who claim to be the heroes of African unity.

We are not going back on our decision to go to Libreville if a summit conference is held there. However, it seems that Algeria, by its behavior, has finally chosen to use violence and international terrorism and consequently has pushed aside all peaceful means that may lead to peace and unity. Algeria is a sovereign state, and consequently it shoulders precise and defined responsibilities toward the international community.

Thus, its government is responsible for all the actions originating from its soil, to which those who commit those actions return after carrying out their missions to find shelter. Therefore, the problem is to know whether the OAU will continue without taking any criticial measure by allowing one of its members to violate the sovereignty and integrity of its neighbors and threaten the peace, security and unity of our nation. You have proved more than once the depth of your adherence to the principles of the OAU charter and the effectiveness you have shown since your election as president of the OAU is exemplary.

We are confident that you will spare no effort in justly treating Morocco and especially in working for the return of those who were kidnaped and are held in Algerian towns away from their families and relations. Enclosed with this a list of the victims. We also wish Your Excellency to consider this message an official document of your organization and distribute it among member states. Your Excellency, accept our highest appreciation. Written in the Royal Palace in Marrakech on Tuesday 17 January 1978.

[Signed] Hassan II, King of Morocco

TUNISIA

NOUIRA VIEWS POLITICAL SCENE, ARAB, AFRICAN ISSUES

LD1814O1Y Tunis L'ACTION in French 14 Jan 78 pp 1,3 LD

[Apparent text of 12 January interview with Tunisian Prime Minister Hedi Nouira]

[Text] [Question] Prime Minister, the present crisis in Tunisia is generally interpreted as a struggle for influence between supporters of liberalism in the face of the various social movements which the country has undergone recently and hardliners; and you are usually classed with the latter. I observed that you rejected this theory and interpretation of events in a recent interview with LE MONDE.

[Answer] It is an absolutely ludicrous interpretation. Tunisia has enjoyed more political and trade union liberalism since 1970, when I became head of government, than ever before.

I am a liberal by nature and even by education. Since I am a lawyer and hence a legalist, it would be impossible for me to forget the need to safeguard all the rights of every citizen. However, it is important not to confuse liberalism with anarchy or confusion. Now, occupying the streets and company premises is not only against the law but runs counter to the general interest. There should certainly be freedom to strike but there must also be freedom to work. I support this view and so does everyone else. As for those who claim to think differently, they were the most stringent hardliners of all when they had or shared power. No strikes, demonstrations or public processions were tolerated then.

[Question] The people who support the theory I mentioned before find additional support in the fact that the former minister of the interior, Mr Belkhodja, who has been dismissed, was thought to be a liberal while some new members of the government, rightly or wrongly, I do not know, have been called hardliners, but perhaps you would deny this?

[Answer] That is not true. The new members of the government are all either technicians or former government members and Politburo members. Therefore, the political outline of the government has not changed.

[Question] Surely the fact that a number of ministers resigned after Mr Belkhodja's dismissal proves that there is or was a problem within the government.

[Answer] The resignation of a minister is not a special event. It happens every day. I cannot see why it is such a surprising occurrence in Tunisia when it passes unnoticed everywhere else in the world. Moreover, this reshuffle has been brewing since September. It just so happended that some chose to leave of their own accord rather than be asked to go.

[Question] The Tunisian General Federation of Labor [UGTT] seems to be hardening its attitude and relations between the government and the UGTT seem to be getting tougher

[Answer] The government protects the general interests of the country whereas the UGTT looks after individual interests. Sometimes the two coincide but not always. It is quite normal for the government not to agree with every demand made by a trade union organization. Disagreeing on specific points does not mean the two sides are enemies.

[Question] But does this not call into question the agreement on a contract policy which the government, trade unions and employers reached in January 1977?

[Answer] That is correct. But the difference is that the government is implementing this agreement while the UGTT now refuses to recognize it. In other words, the government is abiding by this clearly defined agreement. As the documents and statements of trade union officials show, the UGTT has virtually reversed its attitude on this matter. The reason for this is that the UGTT officials who signed this agreement were, if not disowned, certainly strongly criticized and opposed by some of their members. Therefore, they decided to follow the principle of the Third Republic radical party, "I am your leader; therefore, I follow you." In other words I renounce my commitments.

[Question] On the other hand there are a certain number of social movements in Tunisia. There have been a number of strikes over the past few months in the phosphate mines and on the railroads and there is an agricultural strike. Does this not indicate a certain social discontent?

[Answer] To begin with, it indicates that the regime is not draconian or authoritarian. A strike is proof that people are free to express their opinions. However, the fact that strikes take place and people make demands does not necessarily mean that all these demands should be accepted or that it is possible to meet them. If a demand is excessive, it cannot be met but that does not mean there is a social crisis.

Just look at what is happening throughout the Mediterranean countries. The Italian unions, for example, realize that they cannot have everything. Trade unions which demand everything at once have a very immature attitude. Wages have gone up so much that in some cases they have doubled. Making demands without taking into account the economic and social situation constitutes harassment of the government, which is a political not a social position. This is shown by the demands made by the railroad workers and the phosphate mineworkers who presented us with a bill on the order of 8 billion 500 million old dinars.

Well, we discussed the question after the formation of the new government and we got off with less than one-fourth of this figure. This means that the demands were excessive and the fact that the trade unions admitted this proves that they are bargaining more then anything else.

[Question] What is your view of the arguments put forward by the Tunisian opposition who think that economic liberalism is bringing with it social inequalities as in certain other countries?

[Answer] We do not claim to have ironed out all social inequalities but we do claim, and can prove, that we have raised the standard of living of all Tunisians in a very real way, including the most underprivileged classes. Let me give you an example. In 1970, the average annual wage was of the order of 700 dinars. It is now 1,100 dinars. We inherited a drained country, an empty treasury and apathetic workers. It was these same workers who fought Ben Salah's authoritarian policy. We developed out plans and chose a model for our society in conjunction with them. We were in agreement until quite recently. What has changed then? We certainly have not changed.

[Question] To come back to the question of relations between the government and the UGTT, how do you see the future of these relations? Can you tell us whether certain UGTT members are, in fact, advocating the creation of another political party?

[Answer] They have only to carry out their intentions. What are they afraid of? If they want to become a political party then they should say so.

[Question] An opposition paper recently went into print in Tunis. Does this prove or confirm the impression that the government would not be opposed to a multiparty system?

[Answer] Why do you expect the government to say do this or do the other? We have free elections and there is no provision for a single party system in the constitution or in law. Anyone who wants to stand for election by his follow citizens should do so.

[Question] Former Foreign Minister Mohamed Masmoudi returned to Tunisia recently. I believe he has practically the same opinions as Mr Achour, particularly as regards relations with Libya. What effect do you think this could have on Tunisian foreign policy?

[Answer] None.

[Question] We have discussed Tunisia's internal problems at length and it seems to me that Tunisia's recent problems have prevented it from playing the role one would expect in certain Arab-African conflicts, especially the crisis in the Western Sahara.

[Answer] We expressed our opinion on this question some time ago but I feel that in the present situation Tunisia cannot take any sort of positive action.

[Question] But how do you yourselves see this problem?

[Answer] I am not on the spot and do not have up-to-date information on this problem, which, I feel is rather too delicate for me to give an authoritative opinion.

[Question] Tunisia has expressed its opinion on President as-Sadat's initiative in the Middle East problem. Has Tunisia's opinion changed in view of developments in the Middle East and in Israeli-Egyptian negotiations?

[Answer] Tunisian opinion has not changed since 1965. We are perhaps the only country to be constant on this question. While all receivers and plaintiffs have moved from one extreme to the other Tunisia has stuck to one line: The occupied territories must be liberated and the Palestinians must be given a homeland, a state. There will be no peace in the Middle East until these two points have been settled.

[Question] Do you not feel that the hope for peace which was raised by President as-Sadat's initiative is likely to be stifled by the fact that negotiations are making such slow progress?

[Answer] Yes, I am very much afraid that this might be so, and I think my fear is well founded. Mr as-Sadat's gesture was spectacular and Begin's gesture could not have been more negative.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, the Destourian Socialist Party [PSD] recently attended a meeting of all African socialist parties in Dakar and at this meeting the creation of a movement comprising all African socialist parties was suggested. Now, a number of African socialist parties felt the time was not right for creating this movement because they thought African socialism needed to be defined or redefined. The PSD was one of these parties. How could one define African socialism in your opinion?

[Answer] It is not for me to define African socialism, because there are as many brands of socialism in Africa as there are countries. I would even go so far as to say that there are as many brands of socialism as there are countries in the world. In this respect, Socialism is more a code of ethics and a way of thinking, acting and viewing society and a man's or an individual's relations with society than a well-defined economic and social doctrine. Consequently, the meeting of African socialist parties was not aimed at drawing up a doctrine of African socialism but at cooperating to find common points on the subject of development according to a socialist ethic: In other words to adopt the most effective means to produce more and to follow a socialist doctrine, which means a just and humanist doctrine, in distributing the fruits of economic growth. Therefore, the African parties envision a sort of outline of African socialist parties rather than the definition of a rigid doctrine.

[Question] There seems to be a current of opposition among the students. How could they express their opinions, their inclinations, their disagreement and their demands?

[Answer] Our students express their opinions in the same way as all the other students in the world. How do students express their opinions anywhere in the world, in Dakar for example or in Paris or Antananarivo or Tamatave? Tunisian students express their opinions in the same way.

[Question] Everything happening in Tunisia at the moment seems to pose the problem of post-Bourguibaism, so to speak. Do you share this view? Do people fear that present events spell further disturbances in the future?

[Answer] It is totally unacceptable to talk of post-Bourguibaism. It really is unacceptable; there is no such thing as post-Bourguibaism. The Bourguibaism we have now will remain. As I have said, Bourguibaism is an ethic, a way of seeing things, of acting, thinking, shaping and reshaping. Bourguibaism will last as long as Tunisia for its ethic is imprinted on Tunisia.

[Question] Do you mean that Tunisia's fundamental economic and political options will not be questioned or changed in the near or distant future?

[Answer] I do not think they will.

[Question] Some Tunisians do not seem to share this viewpoint.

[Answer] They are perfectly free not to share it. That does not mean they will win in the future. What have they got against Bourguibaism? They have had a good life and I would even say they have had much more than they needed.

[Question] Prime Minister, you have been in Paris for several days now and have met with President Giscard d'Estaing. Can you tell me what you discussed?

[Answer] As I have already said, we dealt with two subjects: the Middle East problem and relations between Tunisia and France. As far as the latter are concerned, they are good, as I have said. Our analyses and viewpoints on the Middle East are identical.

PRIME MINISTER MEETS WITH LIBYAN ENVOY

LD171900Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Prime Minister Hedi Nouira this morning examined ways of strengthening fraternal ties between the Tunisian and Libyan peoples with the general commissioner of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah to Tunis, Mr 'Abd al-Hamid as-Sayd az-Zintani. Mr az-Zintani said afterwards that he had met with the complete understanding of Mr Nouira regarding the consolidation of bilateral relations in the common interest of the two sister countries.

EGYPTIAN DELEGATION WITHDRAWN FROM POLITICAL COMMITTEE

Israeli Statement

TA190749Y Jerusalem POST in English 19 Jan 78 pp 1, 2 TA

[Text] The following is the text of the statement read out last night, while the cabinet meeting was still in session, by Dr Me'ir Rosenne, legal adviser to the Foreign Ministry:

The Government of Israel notes with regret the announcement of the Egyptian Government as to the sudden suspension of the negotiations within the framework of the Political Committee. This abrupt Egyptian announcement proved once more that the Egyptian Government was under the illusion that Israel would surrender to demands that at no time were acceptable to Israel.

The Egyptians demanded of the Israel delegation the withdrawal of Israel's forces from Sinai, the Golan, Judaea, Samaria and Gaza.

The Egyptian foreign minister on his arrival did not hesitate to demand that Israel transfer the old city of Jerusalem to foreign rule, and further demanded the establishment of a Palestinian state in the territory of Eretz Yisra'el, in Hudaea, Samaria and Gaza. Such a Palestinian state would have extinguished any prospects of peace and would have created a danger to the very existence of the Jewish state.

There has never been, and there will not be, a government in Israel that would agree to such a condition.

However, the Government of Israel, which strives for a real peace, has proved its willingness by presenting a peace plan that was received positively by all those who have seen it. The Israel peace plan was presented on December 17 to President Carter and to his advisers. Secretary of State Vance declared in an official communique that it is a notable contribution and contains a constructive approach. President Carter announced on December 28 that the Israel peace plan contains a great deal of flexibility and it is a long step forward. Former President Ford, ranking senators, including the leader of the majority in Congress, the British prime minister, Mr Callaghan, have all declared that it is a most constructive plan.

It is only the Egyptian Government and its astonishing intransigence that sees the plan as delaying tactics and deceit, and decided in the midst of this early stage of negotiations ondeclarations of principles to suspend the talks. We did not put any preconditions.

We did not make any discussion on Egyptian proposals conditional on their acceptance of ours. And in all negotiations there was an exchange of proposals and counter-proposals.

Israel will continue to strive for the establishment of a permanent and just peace with her neighbours. Should the Egyptian Government decide to renew the negotiations, Israel will be willing to do so.

Statement by Begin

TA182236Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2225 GMT 18 Jan 78 TA

[Statement by Prime Minister Begin--live, in English]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, the government decided to issue a statement in the wake of the abrupt and astonishing decision by the Egyptian Government to suspend the negotiations within the framework of the Political Committee in Jerusalem. I don't have anything to add to that statement.

One problem was left behind, and in connection with this issue the cabinet decided as follows:

As far as the proposals is concerned to continue with the negotiations in Cairo in the framework of the Military Committee--although the negotiations in Jerusalem between the Political Committee were suspended--the government will consider this proposal.

Cairo Radio Reports Contacts

NC182023Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2009 GMT 18 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Several hurried contacts have taken place since President as-Sadat's decision was announced. Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil has met with Israeli Prime Minister Begin. The meeting was attended by the Israeli Foreign Ministry's director general, the Israeli Government's legal adviser and the legal adviser of the Israeli Foreign Ministry. It has been learned that Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan will join the meeting.

The reasons for this meeting have not yet been announced.

Ibrahim Kamil also met with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

Israel radio reports that the U.S. delegation is holding urgent contacts with Cairo and Washington.

MENA on Egyptian Activities

NC182106Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2014 GMT 18 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Jerusalem, 18 January--This evening Menahem Begin met with Egyptian Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil had dinner at the invitation of Mr Vance at [words indistinct] before they went to the meeting.

MENA has learned that Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil kept Vance informed through side contacts which took place all day today that Egypt is determined to (?secure an announcement) of a total withdrawal to Egypt's international border and the right of the Palestinian people to (?self-determination).

The entire Egyptian delegation is scheduled to leave Jerusalem immediately.

On the other hand, Vance has stated that he will leave for Cairo to meet President Anwar as-Sadat the day after tomorrow, Friday. He said that he was unable to complete his mission at the meeting (?which was held today).

Kamil Notifies Begin

NC182136Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2118 GMT 18 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Jerusalem, 18 January--Egyptian Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil has stated that, upon instructions from President Anwar as-Sadat, he has gone to meet Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin to notify him of his departure for Cairo.

Journalists asked Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil about the reason for his departure. He said he is leaving in order to brief As-Sadat on developments in Jerusalem.

Kamil Statement

TA182055Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2043 GMT 18 Jan 78 TA

[Statement by Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamil at conclusion of meeting with Prime Minister Begin in Jerusalem--live, in English]

[Text] Well, I have been instructed by my president, by President as-Sadat, to see Prime Minister Begin and to explain to him the reasons why President as-Sadat thought that the Egyptian delegation should be called back to Cairo at this junction, and I'll be going back to Cairo reporting to my president. And I would say that the atmosphere which surrounded the meetings of the Political Committee, of public statements and things like that, have something to do with my recall now to report to the president, and it will be for the president to decide what and how the next stage will be.

Dayan Statement

TA182110Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2046 GMT 18 Jan 78 TA

[Statement by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan at conclusion of meeting between Prime Minister Begin and Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamil--live, in English]

[Text] [Words indistinct] make a statement as to the result of his talk with the foreign minister of Egypt, so I am not going to react or to say anything on behalf of the government. The only thing I want to say is that I am very sorry about Egyptian President as-Sadat's decision. I regret very much that the Egyptian foreign minister has been called back to go to Egypt, and there is one thing that I am sure of and all of us are sure--that nothing which was taking place in the Political Committee caused that crisis. Whatever happened was, as the foreign minister of Egypt said, the atmosphere outside or any kind of other explanation, but absolutely nothing within, and inside the committee.

On the contrary, we were making some progress and everybody was satisfied that we are working hard and making a useful (?job). So I am sorry for the present situation, and I do hope that, probably not too far away and not in a long time, there will be some way to resume the negotiation and talks [words indistinct], talks for getting peace, which is the ultimate and most important objective.

Further Dayan Comment

TA190625Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 19 Jan 78 TA

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan has said that Egypt's decision to suspend the deliberations of the Political Committee had nothing to do with the work of the committee but with the atmosphere generated around it. Dayan said this at dawn this morning after a lengthy talk with his Egyptian counterpart, Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil, at Ben-Gurion Airport.

Dayan also said there was ground for hope that a way will be found to continue the negotiations and that the present crisis will blow over.

Egyptian Spokesman's Statement

TA182013Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 18 Jan 78 TA

[Text] The spokesman of the Egyptian delegation to the political talks said that the talks exploded because the atmosphere of trust had waned. In his opinion, Prime Minister Menahem Begin's speech at yesterday's dinner was one of the signs of this. This was not a diplomatic act and was very disappointing.

In spokesman Dr Mursi Sa'd ad-Din's opinion, President as-Sadat's decision to recall the delegation is aimed at reassessing the entire situation, Dr Mursi hopes to return to Jerusalem. In his opinion, the American delegation now has an important function in bringing the two sides closer to each other.

Egyptian Delegation 'Stunned'

TA181937Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Jan 78 TA

[Text] Immediately after the announcement of the cessation of the talks, our correspondent for Arab affairs, Ehud Ya'ari, asked for first reactions from members of the Egyptian delegation in view of what has happened. Ehud Ya'ari returned to the studio a few minutes ago and here is his report:

[Ya'ari--live] The announcement from Cairo also stunned the Egyptian delegation. No member of the official delegation nor any journalist was prepared to comment, all of them saying: We do not know what has happened. The only person who apparently knew that there was a possibility that As-Sadat would instruct the Egyptian delegation to return was Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil.

Among other things, the announcement was a surprise because, only 3 hours ago, senior members of the Egyptian delegation had told us that the talks were progressing. One of them told me, and I quote: By tomorrow afternoon, we hope to complete the formulation of the declaration of intent. The same Egyptian official explained that the two parties were gradually drawing closer to agreement with respect to the Palestinian clause of this declaration. According to him, the formulation was built around various versions of the position stated by President Carter during his latest visit in Aswan with President as-Sadat--that is to say, Israeli recognition of the need for the Palestinians to participate in the moulding of their future. The Egyptian officials, in fact, said explicitly that Egypt no longer demands Israeli recognition of the principles of self-determination of the Palestinian people. All this took place only half an hour before the dramatic announcement from Cairo.

On leaving the Hilton Hotel, Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan said that the deliberations were to continue and that progress was being made. At this moment, the Egyptian delegation is packing its bags prior to its flight to Cairo tonight. As for when and if they will return, they also do not know.

As-Sadat decided on his own, and in the future as well, he will decide by himself.

Vance Telephones As-Sadat

NC182256Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2222 GMT 18 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Jerusalem, 18 January--U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance has stated that he spoke to President Anwar as-Sadat this evening and stressed the importance of continuing the peace process. Vance said that President as-Sadat agreed that it should continue.

Vance said: We will exert our utmost efforts to achieve the meeting of the two sides once again.

Vance added that he will leave for Cairo this Friday, as scheduled, and will meet President as-Sadat.

Vance also said he will meet Israeli Prime Minister Begin tonight.

Replying to a question about his opinion of the situation, Vance said: As I have said before, there are ups and downs in the negotiations, and I hope that this down will be temporary.

Vance affirmed that the United States will exert its utmost efforts to give impetus to the peace process.

Vance Meeting With Begin

NC182339Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2326 GMT 18 Jan 78 NC

[Text] Jerusalem, 18 January--U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance met at midnight tonight with Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin. Deputy Prime Minister Yiqa'el Yadin and Israeli Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman attended the meeting.

In a statement after the meeting, Vance said he believes the peace process will continue, "because we all have the same goals. I have just visited Begin and he has affirmed this to me."

Referring to his telephone conversation with President as-Sadat this evening, Vance said that President as-Sadat affirmed this to him. "Therefore, I believe that the peace process will continue."

Replying to a question about the fact that Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan did not attend the meeting with Begin, Vance said that Dayan did not attend the meeting because he had gone to bid the Egyptian foreign minister farewell at the airport.

Egyptians Report Concessions

TA182119Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 18 Jan 78 TA

[Text] Egyptian sources told our correspondent Sara Frankel that the Egyptian delegation to the negotiations made two concessions today during the deliberations. One concession was regarding the self-determination of the Palestinians. The Egyptians agreed to a formula on the right of the Palestinians to participate in molding their fate--a formula used by President Carter. The second concessions dealth with the Rafah salient. The Egyptians agreed to sidestep this issue and leave it to the deliberations of the Military Committee.

Our correspondent did not hear a confirmation of this from Israeli sources. Our correspondent also heard assessments from foreign sources that this Egyptian move had been planned in advance and was aimed at bringing about a tripartite summit conference among the U.S President, As-Sadat and Begin.

The spokesman of the Egyptian delegation told our correspondent that there is no dead end and that the talks would continue.

Further on 17 Jan Begin Speech

TA182047Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 18 Jan 78 TA

[Report on speech by Prime Minister Menahem Begin at banquet for Egyptian and U.S. delegations at Jerusalem Hilton Hotel on 17 January]

[Text] [Begin--begin recording] [Words indistinct] restore or agree to restore the fragile, breakable, aggression-provoking and bloodshed-causing lines preceding 5 June 1967, and on this there is almost an absolute national consensus in this country. Peace cannot be established with a redivisioned Jerusalem--the capital city--not only of the State of Israel, but traditionally and culturally of the Jewish people since the days of King David. However, I prefer the positive formulation to the negative, and therefore, I will say under what circumstances peace is reachable and will be established. And I will say only one sentence on this very important subject: Peace will be reached--established--when we respect mutually our principles, and although we have the feeling of urgency, we also have patience. There will be peace. [end recording]

[Announcer] Begin then spoke of self-determination. The phrase had been coined by U.S. President Woodrow Wilson, who had said, "it is just that Palestine should become a Jewish state."

The prime minister said he had deep respect for the great Arab people and their contribution to civilization, noting that the Rambam [11th century Biblical commentator] had written much of his important work in Arabic. Israel rejoiced in Arab self-determination as expressed in 21 sovereign states but, said Begin, misuse of the concept of self-determination had almost brought disaster on the whole world. He then asked Kamil to convey his greetings to President as-Sadat, for whom the Israelis had a great respect.

He thanked the United States for its contribution, and then he concluded: [begin recording]

[Begin] As any one of you who studied some history, we do know that all negotiations to establish peace and to sign peace treaties after war started from difference of opinion. Ultimately, an agreement was reached and peace was established. So I do believe this is going to be the case in the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations.

Ladies and gentlemen, I raise my glass to peace between the great Arab people and the State of Israel. [end recording]

POST Report

TA182048Y Jerusalem POST in English 18 Jan 78 pp 1, 2 TA

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Begin last night at a gala official dinner for the Egyptian and U.S. delegations in Jerusalem expressed his conviction that a peace agreement would ultimately be reached, despite the differences that now exist between Egypt and Israel.

Mr Begin made reference to the substance of the differences, noting that peace could not be reached should Israel restore the "fragile and aggression-provoking borders" of 1967. He also warned that the principle of self-determination should not be applied in the manner of the 1930's that led to World War Two.

"The wonderful concept of self-determination was misused then," Begin said, apparently referring to the Sudentenland crisis. "Let that concept never be misused again..."

Israel respected the Arab people and therefore "rejoiced in its wonderful, perhaps unprecedented" realization of the right of self-determination--in the form of "21 Arab states over an area of twelve million sq. km. from the Persian Gulf to the Mediterranean..."

Begin prefaced his pointed remarks by referring with unconcealed disapproval to Kamil's arrival statement in Israel, and to his opening speech at the Political Committee, in which he had laid down "the circumstances in which peace cannot be established" (the absence of total withdrawal and Palestinian self-determination).

The premier also spoke out strongly against the Arab demand for the return of east Jerusalem--which Kamil had also voiced in his opening statement to the committee. This demand would mean a physical redivision of the city, Began said, and this was "inconceivable." Were London or Paris, Washington or Moscow, Cairo or Damascus divided cities? He asked rhetorically.

On a warmer note, Begin asserted his confidence in the eventual achievement of peace--"When we mutually respect each other's principles. While we do have a feeling of urgency, we also have patience."

Begin asked Kamil to convey a message of "respect and friendship" to President as-Sadat when he returns to Cairo with Secretary Vance this weekend. The Israeli people deeply appreciated As-Sadat's decision to come to Jerusalem.

Begin Rejects Demands

TA181422Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 18 Jan 78 p 1 TA

[By Arye Zimmuqi]

[Text] "I naturally deemed it my right and duty to react to the two speeches by Egypt's foreign minister, Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil, in which he demanded the withdrawal of Israel to the 4 June 1967 borders and a repartition of Jerusalem. I also rejected such statements when they were uttered by Egypt's president, Anwar as-Sadat, during his visit in Jerusalem," Prime Minister Menahem Begin said this morning, replying to a question about the incident during the speech at the festive banquet for the foreign ministers.

The prime minister described his speech as a positive one.

Begin Meets Egyptian Journalists

TA181258Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 18 Jan 78 TA

[From the Midday Newsreel]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin is now meeting in the Knesset hall with the delegation of Egyptian newspaper editors who are here in Jerusalem. Our correspondent Sara Frankel was also present during the first part of the talk, together with representatives of the other communications media, both Israeli and foreign. There were many of them there. For the contents of the first part of that talk, we will go over to our Knesset studio, to our correspondent Sara Frankel.

[Frankel--live] The prime minister warmly received the Egyptian visitors and, after a few words of greeting the first of the speakers, Musa Sabri, editor of AL-AKHBAR, opened with the first question. The prime minister was asked why, last night, he had violated the agreement he had made with the Egyptian foreign minister according to which there would be no public statements likely to spoil the atmosphere.

The prime minister explained that the agreement with the Egyptian foreign minister involved statements of the sort published in the Egyptian press, statements containing anti-Semitic tones, or a statement, for example, like that of the Egyptian president about burning settlements. But with regard to political statements, if there are no statements of this sort from you, then neither will there be any from us. It was the right of the Egyptian foreign minister, the prime minister said, to announce whether he wanted this; but it was our right to react. And if the reference was to Jerusalem, imagine, said Mr Begin, if I had gone to Ismailia and informed President as-Sadat that he had to divide Cairo.

Another question: You said you would resign if you had to abandon settlements. The prime minister immediately corrected the mistake.

[Begin in English--begin recording] I met the congressional Committee for Foreign Relations and I told them that there isn't a prime minister in this country or a government which can dismantle the settlements. Any government which would decide to do so would be dismissed by our parliament. We have here indeed--I admit it sincerely--criticism that we went too far. We stand by our proposal. If it is rejected, we may have different proposals. [end recording, with Frankel translating into Hebrew]

[Unidentified Egyptian in English--begin recording] You have declared in Ismailia, and you still do, that the negotiations are based on 242 and 338. Don't you think that leaving the settlements in Sinai contradicts this resolution and also contravenes international law?

[Begin--in English] The question is whether it contradicts. It does not. Two forty-two, my friends, stipulates that there should be withdrawal of Israeli armored forces from territories occupied in the conflict of 1967. It does not commit Israel to withdrawal to the lines preceding the 6-day war. [end recording, with Frankel translating into Hebrew]

[Frankel--live] Later the prime minister asked that the negotiations be given a chance, to permit their being held with patience, without using direct or indirect pressures. Up to this point a large number of journalists and cameramen on the spot have been present, and from now on the talks will be held behind closed doors.

Jerusalem POST Report

TA190905Y Jerusalem POST in English 19 Jan 78 p 2 TA

[By POST reporter Asher Wallfish]

[Text] Premier Menahem Begin said yesterday that any Israeli government which decided to remove settlements would be dismissed. It would lose the confidence of the Knesset and have to resign within 24 hours, he said, if such a decision were taken. The premier spoke to Egyptian newspaper editors at a 90-minute meeting in his chambers in the Knesset building.

Premier Begin was replying to a request from one of his guests to explain what was meant by the report that he would resign if any Israeli settlement were dismantled.

He told the Egyptian editors that the government would not leave any Jewish settlement without a Jewish defence force. The parliamentary opposition had already accused the government of going too far in its concessions to Egypt, he said.

Begin said that Israel was apprehensive about the idea of establishing a state for the Palestinian Arabs, because this would mean continued bloodshed, as it had experienced in the past. That is why Israel opposes self-determination for the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip, he said. Numerous minorities--such as the Kurds in Iraq and the Walloons in Belgium--had not been accorded self-determination, he noted. Even Egypt itself had not granted the Palestinians of the Gaza Strip self-determination, between 1949 and 1967, when it had the power.

Discussing Israel's sensitivity over the question of a united Jerusalem; Begin revealed that he had shown Egyptian Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil the spots from which Jordanian shells hit the Knesset building in the six-day war of 1967. Begin told the editors he could not imagine any Egyptian agreeing to his parliament building being bombarded.

Politics and haggling were not the same thing, Begin said. The negotiations should be given a chance, in a calm and relaxed atmosphere.

He said, in reply to a question, that he had made political statements at the Tuesday evening dinner for the delegations because he wanted to reply to Kamil's remarks at the opening session of the talks, which had stressed Egypt's demand for full Israeli withdrawal, including from east Jerusalem, and for the creation of a national home for the Palestinian Arabs.

In reply to another question, Begin said Kamil had no cause to take offence because Begin had addressed him as a "young man." Begin noted he was 65, while Kamil was in his early fifties.

The premier noted the appearance of anti-Semitic and anti-Israel comment in the Egyptian press following the Ismailia summit.

He would not have reacted as he did, Begin said, to the report that President Anwar as-Sadat had mentioned burning Israeli settlements, if the reports had been denied at once, or within 24 hours.

Israel's wars had all been defensive wars, Begin said, which left room in their wake for territorial changes, unlike wars of aggression. Despite that, territorial changes should be sought through negotiation, and not imposed, he said.

Israel has never proposed an exchange of territory with Egypt, Begin said in reply to a question, and it will never make such a proposal.

After the meeting was over, editor-in-chief Musa Sabri of "AL-AKHBAR" said he and his colleagues had wanted to meet Begin to learn his opinions and his "mutually contradictory views." They wanted to disprove the allegation that Egypt did not enjoy a free press. They had debated with Begin in a friendly atmosphere, Sabri said, despite the differences of opinion.

Begin, who was waylaid by journalists outside after the meeting, said the conversation could not be described--as the questioner put it--as a "dialogue of the deaf." The Egyptians had a point of view, he said. They had a number of preconceived notions. They had wrong impressions which he had sought to dispel.

Begin noted that one of the editors invited him to visit Cairo. He would have been glad to accept, he said, but he could only do so if President Anwar as-Sadat invited him.

HA'AREZ Reports Egyptian Proposal

TA181227Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 18 Jan 78 p 1 TA

[By Ze'ev Schiff and Yehuda Litani, HA'AREZ representatives in Cairo]

[Text] Prior to the opening session of the Political Committee in Jerusalem, the Egyptians began formulating a new proposal for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip according to which these territories during an interim stage would come under joint Egyptian-Jordanian administration. Government circles in Egypt formulated the proposal recently, fearing a stalemate on the Palestinian issue in the Israeli-Egyptian negotiations.

The proposal is based on the desire to allay Israel's anxiety about security and its apprehensions over the creation of a Palestinian entity influenced by radical elements, as well as to calm PLO-supporting Palestinians, who fear Jordan's attaining control over those territories.

We have been told that the Cairo government is disappointed with the leadership it has tried to encourage in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Egyptains know that the West Bank and Gaza Strip leader who came to Egypt to congratulate the president on his initiative are not an important or influential element in the territories. Despite this, the Egyptians wanted to demonstrate to their people that there also is support for As-Sadat's initiative among Palestinians from the territories.

The Egyptians hope for an Israeli declaration of intention on the subject of self-determination for the Palestinians in the territories and to speed up the formation of a representative body of moderate Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, a body that could participate on their behalf in the negotiations.

Israeli Spokesman on 18 Jan Session

TA181614Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 18 Jan 78 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] After the conclusion of the Political Committee's meeting, our political correspondent spoke with the spokesman of the Israeli delegation, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Naftali Lavi. [begin recording]

[Lavi] The Political Committee convened at 1500 to sum up unofficial contacts conducted from the conclusion of yesterday afternoon's meeting through today. The contacts included members of the delegations at various levels, who tried to create an understanding on those issues around which we must reach some form of early agreement. Since they found that the informal contacts are conducive and efficient, Foreign Minister Dayan decided today at the beginning of the formal meeting to propose that these contacts continue in the future and that the plenum of the delegations convene tomorrow at 1100 [0900 GMT] to sum up the achievements reached between today and tomorrow. The two visiting foreign ministers agreed, and this is what was decided.

[Question] What do they discuss in these informal contacts?

[Answer] We have an agenda comprising three clauses. Logic has it that the first clause on the written agenda is the first clause for deliberation--and this clause is known to you--and we are discussing it in order to find common language upon which we can agree, and then we will go on.

[Question] Have any points of progress been achieved with respect to this declaration of principles?

[Answer] I cannot say that there has been any progress so long as we have no positive conclusion on the first clause, one acceptable to both parties, thus enabling us to continue. As long as this has not been done, I cannot call it progress. I can say that today's deliberations were useful, clarifying the situation to the parties with respect to the opposing positions and clarifying the pace with which we can make progress later.

[Question] It has been learned from the prime minister's office that the cabinet is to convene this evening. Will the foreign minister ask the cabinet for new guidelines or new decisions?

[Answer] I do not think that the foreign minister will ask for guidelines. If the cabinet does convene, then the prime minister will decide which path he wishes to follow--whether to lay down guidelines or to ask for reports. This is something for the prime minister to decide.

[Question] So the foreign minister has no reason to ask for new guidelines?

[Answer] I do not see this being the case at the moment. [end recording]

Peres Comments on Developments

TA182254Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 2210 GMT 18 Jan 78 TA

[Text] Labor Party chairman MK Shim'on Peres said this evening that the problem now is not to seek the guilty party in the cessation of the talks but to seek an opening for negotiations. Mr Peres expressed the opinion that the reasons for the search for peace are still valid and the cessation of the talks is not the end of the world. Our correspondent Dan Raviv interviewed Shim'on Peres: [begin videotape]

[Question] Mr Peres, are you very surprised by President as-Sadat's reaction?

[Answer] I am surprised, but I considered that such surprises might come up. In my opinion, we should have prepared public opinion for something like this. The negotiations are being conducted amid high tension with almost impossible expectations, and the difficulty is that they are being conducted on two planes at the same time--the plane behind closed doors and the plane of open deliberations--and there is a contradiction between the two. You never know who is reacting to what. At the same time--and I know all of us are deeply concerned; we are a peace-loving people and we would like these negotiations to advance--one has to remember two things: first, that the reasons for peace--the Egyptian and Israeli reasons--are still valid. After all, no one is doing anyone a favor. Second, it is not the end of the world. We are facing a very difficult period. I assess that until Saturday anyone who can will apply pressure to change things, and we will be facing a difficult time, but this is not the end of the world.

[Question] In your assessment, is this part of the tactics adopted by President as-Sadat in order to make more significant achievements, from their point of view, during the political negotiations?

[Answer] I do not know if this is only a tactic. I think that the president has already displayed high tension in the interview that he gave to OCTOBER magazine. This was a first sign, and we are in a rather paradoxical situation. When we concede the whole of Sinai, As-Sadat says that we have not conceded anything; it is his. On the other hand, he tells us, I am giving you total peace and we say that total peace is a natural situation, this is nothing new. That is to say, both sides, each in the eyes of the other, maintains that the other has not conceded anything and that he has not received enough.

The thing that amazes me in President as-Sadat's approach is his impatience with respect to time. There is a French proverb which says: While in war, then act as in war, but in negotiations, then act as in negotiations.

It is natural that each side begins. [as heard] I have never been a disciple of the Israeli Government's approach of let's begin at the end. One cannot begin at the end; when you begin, you begin at the beginning.

[Question] You have quite a lot of criticism about the way President as-Sadat is acting. Do you also have criticism against Prime Minister Menahem Begin and against the way he has acted in the negotiations?

[Answer] I certainly have much criticism, even though this evening I shall be very moderate. We have stated this criticism. We have constantly feared the unnatural expectations we have created to the effect that in a short while it would be possible to achieve a comprehensive solution in all spheres, and that we are following an open path all the time, and that all the meetings are good ones and serious. We created a little pressure for ourselves and now the negotiations are the victim of this.

I assess that all parties--I stress all parties; under no circumstances am I prepared to or do I want to place the guilt on our government; this is not the time--and the problem now is not to find the guilty party. The problem now is to seek the opening for the renewal of negotiations. I do not like games of prestige since the question is not who is right and who is guilty, for there is only one real, serious and historical question--how to continue the negotiations while considering the fact that this was President as-Sadat's reaction--his reaction has always been surprising in its unexpectedness--and this is what we have to consider.

Israeli Press Comment

TA190732Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 19 Jan 78 TA

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpt] The Jerusalem POST says we expected difficulties in the negotiations, even at the beginning, but not artificial and arbitrary crises. This, however, may be the rule of the game as understood by President as-Sadat. If he wants the talks to accomplish their objective--peace--President as-Sadat has to summon more patience than he has had thus far.

HA'AREZ writes that we would be better off, if we did not conclude too rapidly what motivated President as-Sadat, whether it was an extortion exercise or whether he had not intended to conduct customary negotiations, but expected in advance that Israel would accept all his terms. The U.S. secretary of state, HA'AREZ says, can explain to As-Sadat tomorrow what responsibility he will have to bear if indeed he has made a decision that cannot be retracted.

DAVAR hopes that the astonishing turning point is but a tactical pause. In any case, the Labor Party organ makes it clear to the Egyptians that if they hoped to rouse the Israeli public against the government, they are very much mistaken. Even one who is not in full agreement with the prime minister's decision to promulgate the three no's at the Hilton gala dinner must admit that these no's enjoy a broad national consensus.

HAZOFE holds that As-Sadat's surprise step is meant for the United States, to make its delegation increase its pressure on Israel. However, HAZOFE says, the Israeli Government is certain that the U.S. administration will not try to impose a settlement of its own. The Egyptian president, the paper writes, knows well that Israel has no intention of committing suicide by forfeiting secure positions just because he, As-Sadat, dared to appear in Jerusalem. Negotiations, HAZOFE stresses, are the opposite of an ultimatum.

'AL HAMISHMAR says: The fact that As-Sadat's step took everyone by surprise is sufficient proof that there was no real reason to suspend the talks. Thus, As-Sadat's step can only be explained as an attempt to dictate. The Israeli Government, with U.S. assistance, must avoid the failure of the talks, not by surrendering to diktat, but through a supreme effort toward a compromise and possible concessions.

SHE'ARIM opens its editorial by stating: It appears that the end of delusions has come. It concludes its article: The cabinet has to admit it failed in its honest effort to come to terms with Egypt, and it has to begin everything anew. We must revoke our giving up all the areas of Sinai, as well as our pledge for autonomy to the Palestinians. A national unity government must be formed and new negotiations should begin, according to SHE'ARIM.

HAMODI'A notes that even if there had been an Israeli declaration which was in any way rigid, the prime minister and the foreign minister had not even partly approximated the sharp and extremistic proclamations made by President as-Sadat in the last few days. The main question, the paper says, is whether the peace talks have indeed broken down.

OMER believes that As-Sadat took his surprising step because he had received the full support of the United States, and it is not exerting as much pressure as he would like. Hence the current danger is that the Americans will be panicked by the Egyptian step and will try to exert pressure on Israel.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT Commentator

TA191144Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Jan 78 pp 1, 8 TA

[Erol Guiney commentary: "The Danger of the Vicissitudes of the Moods of One Man"]

[Text] The difficulty bound up in As-Sadat's peace initiative is in the fact that this initiative began in an atmosphere of drama: the drama of the Egyptian president's visit to Jerusalem, faced with the opposition of most of the Arab world. According to this view, this initiative needs a similar atmosphere for it to be able to continue.

This means that this initiative must remain very impressive all the time. This may be obtained in two ways: either by a speedy success, meaning satisfying most of the demands being made by the Arabs since 1967, or by creating an impressive stage in another way, for example, by a dramatic cessation of the talks.

But it is obvious that the peacemaking process between Israel and Egypt will not be able to succeed other than through a difficult, slow and patient effort.

All this does not mean that Israel's leaders have no share in the responsibility for what has happened, such as by the attempt to create faits accomplis in the territories which are the issue of the negotiations.

It is clear that As-Sadat now seeks to push the United States and the Western world into exerting pressure on Israel. It is to be expected that there will indeed by such pressures, or at least a vigorous attempt at persuasion.

However, after Carter described Begin's peace program as a good basis for negotiations and after the debates of the Political Committee achieved progress, it will be hard for the Americans to expect Israel to make a general retreat from its policy.

It is worth adding one more point: What has now happened illustrates the dangers involved in basing the vital interests of a country on the vicissitudes of the moods of a regime ruled by one man.

19 January Begin Speech

TA191237Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 19 Jan 78 TA

[Israeli Prime Minister Begin's speech to functionaries of the United Jewish Appeal from France at Knesset Chagall Hall in Jerusalem--live, in English]

[Text] Honored guests from France: Israel elaborated, reviewed and presented a peace plan in two parts concerning the bilateral relations between our country and Egypt with two principles: 1) demilitarization of the Sinai Dessert, which must not again turn into a staging place for an attack against our country, as has already happened five times within 29 years.

When President as-Sadat visited in Jerusalem, he promised me in a private talk that the Egyptian Army will not again cross the Jiddi and the Mitla passes to the east, and thus the main part of the Sinai Peninsula will be without troops, will be demilitarized. This is a most vital matter for our security. There must be a security belt, which is a lesson from the experience of a generation, in order to avoid the possibility of another war breaking out and in order that we may defend ourselves if we are attacked.

The military experts in Egypt, however, prepared a different map, which does not exactly coincide and it contradicts the private promise given to me by President as-Sadat. In accordance with their plan, the bulk of the Sinai Peninsula would be remilitarized.

We, of course, cannot agree to such a concept, which may prove most dangerous to our future. I repeat: For the sake of peace, for both nations, the Desert of Sinai must be demilitarized. [applause]

The second principle concerns our settlements in the very narrow strip in the north of Sinai, between Rafai or Rafah and Al-'Arish. This is also one of the most vital issues of our national security. And, of course, there is no government in Israel which would be capable to order dismantling of Jewish settlements in which so much sweat and toil were invested--making the desert blossoming. No land was taken away from anybody. When our settlers came there, it was a complete desert--sand and sand, and nothing else. We brought water from the north, and our men tilled the land, and now it is almost a garden--green, producing. We are not going to destroy the fruit of the labor of our men at the whim of the Egyptian Government.

When I met President as-Sadat at Ismailia, I told him that those settlements are going to stay. Lately, again yesterday, the controlled or directed Egyptian press claimed that at Ismailia I misled President as-Sadat, and therefore, they put on me a new label and they call me "Shylock." Well, I--and lending money. Of course, we will pay attention to the fact that the Egyptian directed press uses an old anti-Semitic expression which wanders throughout Europe since Shakespeare wrote his Merchant of Venice. But did I mislead President as-Sadat? I have no right to quote from the minutes whatever he told me, but I am perfectly entitled to disclose to you what I told him. And now I quote from the minutes of our conversation at Ismailia.

I told the president of Egypt: I have to point out that we cannot leave our settlements and our civilians without self-defense. This is the resolve of our generation, with all the experience behind us. Mr President, we respect your principle and we ask you to respect our principle.

As you can see, at Ismailia I told President as-Sadat not only that the settlements would stay, but they will be defended by an Israeli contingent. This is, in the main, the first part of our peace plan.

The second part relates to the autonomy, administrative autonomy which we suggest to give to our neighbors, the Palestinian Arabs residing in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza district.

Ladies and gentlemen, it will be for the first time in history that the Palestinian Arabs residing in those parts of the land of Israel will enjoy self-rule. For centuries they lived under the oppressive Turkish rule; for three decades under the British rule; for 20 years under Jordanian rule, which was very oppressive indeed. The Jordanians ruled the Palestinian Arabs in Judaea and Samaria with a whip. It never occurred to them to suggest self-determination. It never occurred to them to propose autonomy. The same applies to Egyptian rule in the district of Gaza. They ruled the Arabs there directly for 19 years, never gave them Egyptian citizenship, and they let them live in the most horrible, abominable slums for two decades. We take out the people from those slums and give them proper civilized housing and permanent jobs. And so we shall go on doing, in order to solve humanely the problem also of the Arab refugees, who are under our jurisdiction.

For the first time in history comes Israel and suggests to the Palestinian Arabs to enjoy self-rule, autonomy, based on the following principles: They themselves, in a secret ballot, through a democratic election, will elect an 11-member council with 11 departments which will deal with all the problems of daily life. We shall not interfere to any extent whatsoever in the daily life of our neighbors. Security and public order must be the responsibility of the Israeli authorities, because if we should not have control of security, the so-called PLO--that murderous Nazi organization, the baser of which there has never been in history since and except or besides the armed Nazi organizations--would take over Judaea and Samaria in 24 hours.

Then we would face a mortal danger. Almost all our civilians, men, women and children, would be at their mercy, with their Strelas and Kalachnikovs and Katyushas and heavy guns with the range of 43.8 kms, to be supplied by the Soviet Union in no time--from Odessa to Bethlehem, the flight time between those two sites being only 2 hours. It would turn into a Soviet base, like it happened in Angola and in Mozambique and in Ethiopia. Indeed, when I told President as-Sadat that some of the PLO men are Soviet agents, he corrected me and said: all of them.

Ladies and gentlemen, it would turn into a Soviet base, a mortal danger to us, to the Jewish state. We would then place all our civilians in the Gush Dan [central district], Tel Aviv, Jaffa, Rehovot, Rishon Lezion, Nes Ziyyona, Bene Beraq, Ramat Gan, Petah Tiqwa, Giv'atayyim--all those 2.5 million Jews, the remnants of our people, those who were saved from the holocaust--under the range of their conventional artillery, under the control of our most implacable enemy, since the dark days of the Nazis. May I tell you, ladies and genetlemen: Never shall we place our women and children in the range of that implacable enemy of the Jewish people, never! [applause]

But we produced a plan of human decency, autonomy for the Palestinian Arabs, security for the Palestinian Jews. We can live together and build together the country.

Ladies and gentlemen, with this plan in its two parts, I went to Washington a month ago and I presented it to the President of the United States; to the secretary of state; to the ranking senators--Senator Jackson, Senator Case--from both parties, the Democratic and the Republican, represented by them; Senator Javits and Senator Stone; to the former president of the United States, Mr Gerald Ford; to the former secretary of state, Dr Kissinger; to the majority leader of the House of Representatives; to the representative of the mighty Jewish community in the United States--God bless them all, we are proud of the Jewish community in the United States--and then... [applause] May I tell you, ladies and gentlemen, that we are also proud of the Jewish community in France. [applause]

Then I went to London and presented the plan to the prime minister of Great Britain and to the foreign secretary of Great Britain. Also Monsieur Francois Poncet saw our peace plan. But until now I didn't get from him any opinion, whereas all those who saw this peace plan said--now I quote: The secretary of state of the United States read out a communique in which he stated: It is a notable contribution; it is a constructive approach. President Carter, our friend, said, having listened to my presentation and seen the maps with all the details, including the question of the Jewish settlements: There is a great deal of flexibility in this plan; it is a long step forward.

Some people say that the Egyptian Government decided yesterday to recall the delegation so that there should be pressure, American pressure, exerted on Israel. Ladies and gentlemen, what pressure? Can a notable contribution become otherwise in 4 weeks? Can a constructive approach become negative in 1 month? Can a great deal of flexilibity turn into inflexibility? And can a long step forward be turned into a short step backwards, all in several weeks? It is absolutely inconceivable and not [word indistinct] amongst ourselves, frighten us with this inconceivable concept of pressure to be exerted upon us. We presented a positive plan, a human plan, a decent plan, a real peace plan, far-reaching, sweeping. No pressure can be exerted on us to turn fairness into unfairness, decency into indecency.

However, during the week, 3 days ago came to us the foreign minister of Egypt--a likeable man. I like him, I told him so. And upon landing on our land, he made a statement at the Ben-Gurion Airport to the effect that we must give up Jerusalem. So he said; he just landed and told us, "you will have to give up Jerusalem."

Jerusalem. May I tell you, ladies and gentlemen, it was the most preposterous statement ever made by a guest. Imagine; I come to France and say that Paris should be divided into two. The very same day I would be asked to leave France. [laughter] But I wouldn't make such a statement. I said it is a preposterous statement for a guest to make, but I have another word, in the language of Corneille and Baudelaire and of Dumas and of Hugo and of Proust. In classical French it means "chutzpa." [laughter and applause]

We didn't ask the foreign minister of Egypt to leave our country after the "chutzpadicke" [Yiddish for impudent] statement. On the contrary, we received him with hospitality and we started negotiations which were quite successful. Out of seven paragraphs of a declaration of principles, we agreed on five. Two were left out, for further negotiations, comme il faut, and suddenly he was recalled. Of course, it was not only our right but our duty to answer that statement, as I did. I would do it at any opportunity.

As prime minister of Israel, it was my duty to explain to the foreign minister of Egypt that Jerusalem, the heart of the Jewish people, was occupied by the Jordanians for 19 years as a result of invasion and aggression, and for 19 years we couldn't go there to pray to the holiest of the holies of the Jewish people. And when we were attacked, 11 years ago, with God's help, our men liberated Jerusalem. Everybody can go now to pray to the holy shrines of his religion: Christians, Moslems and Jews. And so Jerusalem was reunited and it will be united, the capital city of Israel and the Jewish people forever and ever. [applause]

When I met yesterday a group of Egyptian journalists, I started to understand what happened. Amongst the many questions they asked me--not all of them polite, but we played cool--there was the following question: You should recognize the fact, Mr Prime Minister, that President as-Sadat recognized your right to survive. Shalom aleikhem. He recognized our right to survive. Ladies and gentlemen, we never have asked anybody to recognize our right to exist. When Descartes made his famous, famous scientific saying, "cogito, ergo sum,"--I think; therefore, I exist"--he left to us to say, because this is our history: I suffer; therefore, I exist. Credo, ergo sum. But we exist, our dear Egyptian friends, without your recognition, for 3,700 years. Even without the recognition, we left Egypt in order to exist in the land of our forefathers--promised to us by God and man. We never asked your president or your government or any other president or a general or a nation to recognize our right to exist. Who ever asked to recognize the right of France to exist? The right of Belgium to exist? Of Luxembourg to exist? We exist; therefore, we have a right to exist. We paid a price for that right. What a price! Up to this generation. That does not diminish our right to exist; to the contrary.

What we expect from you is to recognize our right to our own land as we recognize your right to 21 sovereign Arab states, stretching from the Persian Gulf up to the shores of the Atlantic Ocean, 12 million square kilometers. You should recognize our right to this land we have, the little country, as the expression of the right of national self-determination for the Jewish people, victimized, persecuted, humiliated, ultimately physically destroyed, and at last having come back, back. We expect you to recognize our right to our independence and to our human dignity and to our sovereignty. We never asked you to recognize our right to exist; we have it. The right to exist was given to us by Elohy Avraham, Yizhaq Veya'aqov [the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob]. [applause]

Well, ladies and gentlemen, the talks within the framework of the Political Committee in Jerusalem were disrupted. We are sorry. We can only say we shall pursue our goal to have peace. We yearn and pray for peace. We produced a good peace plan. We want peace with all our neighbors to the south, with Egypt. We respect the people of Egypt. We tell them if we have peace we can help each other. We do not say so condescendingly. We don't have any superiority complex over the Arabs. We respect the great Arab people and their contribution to human civilization. But neither do we have any inferiority complex. We, too, contributed to human civilization. We can help each other, and we want peace with our northern neighbors and, in the east, we want real peace. We shall pursue this noble goal.

We hope that the talks will be resumed. It is up to Egypt. If the Egyptian Government should, at any day, want to renew, resume the talks, the Government of Israel will be prepared to do so as well. And let nobody despair of the chances of peace--ultimately, ups and downs and crises, walking out and coming back. Ladies and gentlemen, we learned from history, war is evitable; peace is inevitable. [applause]

Now, ladies and gentlemen, I have a special appeal to make to you. Make an effort today, a unique effort, and it will be earmarked for a great human noble purpose. We have still in this country 45,000 families living in the most abject housing conditions--three, five, seven people in one room. How can the children study? And there are other phenomena of family life under such conditions which, all adults here understand, I do not have to explain. This is depth poverty which is a shame for any society.

We are a Jewish society. We are a people who got the command in the days immemorial--justice, justice, shall ye pursue. Zedeq, Zedeq Tirdof. We cannot acquiesce in this horrible, abominable, intolerable poverty. We want to build for them proper, civilized houses and let the children be happy and smile and study and advance in life. Three hundred thousand people. I made an appeal to the bonds organization, to the Keren Hayesod, to the United Jewish Campaign. Let us all make an effort. The Jewish people in the diaspora and our people in this country, and together we shall solve the problem, in a few years. It cannot be done in a week or a month. We need a few years, but in 3, 4 years, we will make this effort. The flats, the apartments will be built. When you come again, as you will, we shall bring you to those apartments and you will listen to the laughter of a Jewish child.

There cannot be, my friends, a nobler purpose, and therefore I appeal to you: Make an effort. Any amount you give above your contribution last year, or last years, will be earmarked, qodesh [sacred] for this purpose. And if you make the effort and we shall match it here, in a few years we shall solve completely this economic, social--no--moral problem. And you will be happy in sharing of this human solution. So, today, I appeal to you: Make an effort, a special effort, a great one and you will have great naches [Yiddish for joy] when the day comes and those families are happy in their apartments.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, let us stand together. We may face difficult times. I tell you in French, [words in French indistinct] strong and calm, we shall stand. Ours is a good cause, a just cause. We hate war, we hate bloodshed. We want peace. We made a step forward, a long step forward. It will come. Let us stand together, Jews all over the world, with the Jews in Eretz Yisra'el. Let us stand together and make this land of ours strong, unconquerable, its people and its army invincible, and make sure that Israel and her children and children's children will live in security, in peace, in liberty, in justice, from generation to generation, forever. [applause]

ISRAEL UNDECIDED ON CONTINUING MILITARY COMMITTEE

TA190616Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 19 Jan 78 TA

[Text] Israel has not yet determined its position regarding the proposal to continue the discussions of the Military Committee in Cairo despite the suspension of the negotiations in the Political Committee. The prime minister and the defense minister will meet today to decide whether Weizman will indeed go to Cairo on Saturday, as Egypt proposes, or only at the beginning of next week.

The spokesman of the Egyptian delegation to the Political Committee, Dr Sa'd ad-Din, said in Cairo at dawn that Weizman would come there this morning. It has been reported from the Israeli Defense Ministry, however, that Weizman is not going to Cairo this morning and that it has not yet been decided when he will do so.

BEGIN WOULD ACCEPT CARTER INVITATION TO U.S.

TA191132Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Jan 79 p 1 TA

[By Arye Zimmuqi]

[Excerpt] "Coldly and firmly," Prime Minister Menahem Begin said this morning when he was asked how he reacted to the latest developments.

In reply to a question about the possibility of a meeting between himself and Presidents as-Sadat and Carter in Washington, the prime minister answered: "If U.S. President Carter invites me and President as-Sadat to go to Washington for a meeting, I will respond very willingly and go there."

Our correspondent points out that it was the prime minister who proposed initiating a tripartite meeting among himself, As-Sadat and Carter in Washington. To date nothing is known about the possibility of such a meeting.

RABIN: BEGIN, AS-SADAT 'PASSED POINT OF NO RETURN'

TA181606Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 18 Jan 78 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] Both President as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Begin have passed the point of no return. They have to reach an agreement. These remarks were made today by MK Yizhaq Rabin in a lecture to students at Hebrew University.

Mr Rabin expressed the opinion that the Americans will not permit the present negotiations to run aground. Our correspondent Shelomo Raz heard Yizhaq Rabin's remarks: [begin recording]

[Rabin] I think that both President as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Begin have passed the point of no return, each for his own reason. They must reach an agreement. Neither of them will be able to face history, and perhaps even worse, if this opportunity is missed. I regard this stage as one of bargaining and a battle of nerves around the conditions of the agreement, and if the two of them are unsuccessful, I cannot see the Americans standing on the sidelines. We have achieved direct negotiations. We once said that we would only be able to speak at the highest level. Everything between us and the Arabs will be settled. It has transpired that both Egypt and Israel need the Americans today also. [end recording]

ALLON: BEGIN PLAN TOO RUSHED, CONCEDES TOO MUCH

TA1911O2Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 19 Jan 78 p 3 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin's plan to concede the whole of Sinai and to grant autonomy to Judaea, Samaria and Gaza was too rushed and conceded too much, while harming security interests of the State of Israel and endangering the Jewish image of the country, MK Yigal Allon said last night in a lecture to the central ideological circle of the Histadrut, held in the Va'ad Hapo'el [steering committee of Histadrut] building in Tel Aviv.

The speaker said that Begin had acted in a rush and in the absence of the diplomatic minimum. [as published]

Allon came out against the prime minister's plan to grant autonomy to Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip, since this would lead to the establishment of two Palestinian states: Jordan, which was an inseparable part of Eretz Yisra'el, and a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza. The plan to permit the Arabs to opt for Israeli citizenship was likely to confuse the Jewish character of the State of Israel and turn it into a binational country.

Speaking about the settlements in Sinai, Allon said that harm was being done to the settlers by representing them as an obstacle on the way to peace. He added that our settlements were a part of the defense system, and they represented our strategic lines.

With regard to the border changes which Israel wants in Sinai, they included 3 to 4 percent of Egypt's territory, while the Golan Heights also took up only a small percentage of Syria's territory. The same applied to the hills of Samaria, which were the smallest part of Jordan. Allon added that during As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, Egypt gained five of its goals, which were:

--As-Sadat impressed the people in Israel;

--As-Sadat succeeded in getting the Egyptian nation behind him;

--As-Sadat strengthened his status in world public opinion;

--Right at the beginning of the move Egypt received the guarantee from the Israeli cabinet of Egyptian sovereignty over the whole of Sinai;

--After the visit it emerged that Prime Minister Menahem Begin had recognized the existence of the Palestinian problem.

Allon said that Israel had also profited from the visit. The gains were:

--As-Sadat recognized the existence of the State of Israel;

--Israel obtained Egypt's recognition that there was a basis for the demand to satisfy its security needs;

--A great achievement was that As-Sadat announced that the Palestinian problem could be solved in the context of a link with Jordan.

MK Allon said that the opposition would not make it difficult for the cabinet to obtain peace, but would fight the cabinet programs where they should be fought. The meeting was opened and conducted by the circle's head, Yehuda (Guthelf).

MINISTER BURG COMMENTS ON FUTURE OF JERUSALEM

TA181447 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 18 Jan 78 TA

[From the Midday Newsreel]

[Text] The Ministerial Committee for Jerusalem Affairs decided this morning that in the future the ministerial offices will not build central [government] units outside the capital. The committee also authorized preferential conditions to employees of ministry offices who move to the capital. Some 3,700 employees will be moved to Jerusalem within 2 years. At the end of the committee meeting, our correspondent Shimon Schiffer spoke with the chairman of the Ministerial Committee for Jerusalem Affairs, Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg:

[Schiffer--live] Without any connection with the negotiations being held in Jerusalem over the future of the relations with Egypt and even over Jerusalem, as the Egyptians are demanding, the Ministerial Committee for Jerusalem Affairs met this morning. The remarks by the Egyptian foreign minister at the opening session of the Political Committee to the effect that Israel had to return to the Arabs holy Jerusalem, too, as he put it, faced those coming to the committee meeting this morning. Minister Dr Yosef Burg reacted to the remarks by the Egyptian foreign minister as a Jew, as an Israeli and as a member of the Israeli cabinet, as he put it: [begin recording]

[Burg] Jerusalem is one city, and it would be a sin to divide it. With respect to freedom of religion and of religious rites everywhere, I, as a religious man, give total freedom to every single person in accordance with his beliefs, except that this is a question of administration and not a political question. Since I knew Jerusalem up to 1967 as a divided city and since I know Berlin as a divided city, I can say that even from the economic and political aspects, there is nothing more unhealthy than to divide a city. As a Jew, I say this; as an Israeli, that this thing is not even open to argument, not to argument and not to bargaining. [end recording]

[Schiffer] We would not be mistaken if we evaluate that in the coming period of time we will be witnesses to a certain development of the capital and to the transfer of financial resources to Jerusalem. [begin recording]

[Burg] The development of the city can be to the benefit of all the inhabitants, without distinction of religion or nationality. We will, in another few weeks, also make proposals regarding housing in the eastern, Arab sector of the city. We want this to be a city accepted and sacred to all believers in the whole world. [end recording]

RAKAH MEMBER, CYPRIOT ARRESTED ON SECURITY CHARGES

TA190810Y Jerusalem POST in English 19 Jan pp 1, 2 TA

[By POST reporters Arthur Kemelman and Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] Tel Aviv--RAKAH (New Communist) Central Committee member and journalist Hans Lebrecht was arrested at his home here yesterd[illegible]n suspicion of aiding a Greek Cypriot journalist said to be a PLO agent. The Cypriot was also arrested, at a Tel Aviv hotel.

The Cypriot was brought before a magistrate last night who banned publication of the proceedings. But a REUTER report from Nicosia said the suspect was Panayiotis Paschalis, a correspondent for the communist daily KHARAVYI. It was the newspaper which identified its man, who it said was on a reporting assignment in Israel.

ITIM said Lebrecht would be brought before a judge this morning.

Paschalis, 38, who is also a photographer for East German television, is suspected of having committed acts against Israel's security and of working for the Palestine Liberation Organization on behalf of an Arab state.

The 62-year-old Lebrecht, his alleged accomplice, writes for the RAKAH journal and for the French communist paper L'HUMANITE and the Italian communist daily L'UNITA.

Lebrecht's wife told the Jerusalem POST yesterday that two plainclothesmen had appeared at the couple's apartment at 8 a.m. and asked her husband to accompany them to the Dizengoff police station to answer some questions. He was to travel to Jerusalem that day to cover the Israel-Egypt Political Committee talks.

When he failed to return, she said, she went to the police station to ask what had happened. It was not until later in the afternoon, accompanied by lawyer Felicia Langer, that she learned her husband had been arrested.

Mrs. Lebrecht said she and her husband were then accompanied home by policement. Lebrecht was allowed to take his medicines and warm clothing and was then transferred to the Abu Kabir lockup.

Yesterday Langer waited all day in vain outside the courthouse for her client. It was expected that he would be brought to court in the evening.

Mrs. Lebrecht said she thought the authorties were acting against her husband for political reasons.

Uzi Burstein, spokesman for RAKAH, described Paschalis as a journalist who frequently visits Israel. He said the Cypriot had arrived for his present visit three or four days ago.

British consul John Skelton told the POST that he was seeking clarification from the police. (Cypriot interests are represented by the British consul since Cyprus is a member of the British Commonwealth).

Donald Neff, head of the foreign press association, said he had asked the police for clarification concerning the arrest of two journalists. He said the association was following the case closely.

RAKAH yesterday called Lebrecht's arrest "a provocative step" against it. But while the arrest might notharm the closely-knit communist cadres, there was some doubt concerning the Black Panther group associated with RAKAH in the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality. [DFPE] It was not clear what would happen inside the Black Panther group if there were further disclosures and irrevocable proof of their accuracy, DFPE [Black Panther] MK Charlie Biton told the Jerusalem POST yesterday.

In a statement issued yesterday RAKAH said the arrest of Lebrecht who is also secretary of the Union of Anti-Hitler Fighters and Nazi Victims, was a "reprisal" for Lebrecht's having asked Prime Minister Begin in a press conference in Ismailia, "how can there be peace without the Palestinians and their representatives--the PLO?"

Communists have been arrested in the past for security offences, but RAKAH spokesman Uzi Burstein said Lebrecht was the first Central Committee member to be detained for alleged espionage.

Last year Rami Livne, the son of former RAKAH MK Avraham Levenbraun, was released from jail after having served most of a four-year sentence for membership in Syrian-operated Jewish-Arab spy ring.

POLL SAYS 48 PERCENT FAVOR BEGIN'S ACTIVITIES

TA191040Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 19 Jan 78 p 3 TA

[Text] In the latest poll taken by the Gallup Institute, which was completed last week, 1,200 people, representing a representative sample of the adult urban population, gave their views on the prime minister's ways of acting in matters of foreign affairs and security and those who appeared to them to be worthy of standing at the head of the DMC.

The first question was: "In the negotiations for peace now being held, there is the impression that the prime minister is acting and deciding on his own, without bringing in the other cabinet ministers or the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. Do you support this way of acting or not?" Out of those polled, 48 percent supported Begin's way of acting and 37 percent did not. Eleven percent gave no opinion, and 4 percent refused to answer.

In the second question, those asked were given names from which they were to select who they would most like to see as the leader of the DMC. According to the results, their support was as follows: Yiga'el Yadin, 46 percent; Amnon Rubinstein, 38 percent; Me'ir 'Amit, 24 percent; Shemu'el Tamir, 16 percent; Me'ir Zore'a, 8 percent; Stef Wetheimer, 7 percent; and Yisra'el Katz, 4 percent.

POST: ALMA II HAS MORE OIL THAN ISRAEL NEEDS

TA190821Y Jerusalem POST in English 19 Jan 78 p 1 TA

[Text] Drilling at Alma II, near At-Tur, in Sinai, clearly indicates that the oil output there is potentially twice as great as Israel's needs, informed foreign sources told the Jeruslame POST yesterday.

This means that Israel could not only satisfy all her oil requirements but could also export enough oil to obviate the need for American economic aid, the sources said.

The future of these wells is to be discussed with Egypt. It is not clear who will have the drilling concession. Egypt once gave it to Amoco, but Israel turned it over (partly) to Neptune. Both are American.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER NIGERIAN DELEGATION'S VISIT

LD181148Y Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 18 Jan 78 LD

[Text] A joint communique has been issued simultaneously in Teheran and Lagos at the end of the visit to our country by Shehu Musa Yar'adua, chief of staff of the Nigerian Supreme Headquarters.

The communique states that at the invitation of His Excellency Jamshid Amuzegar, prime minister, His Excellency Shehu Musa Yar'adua, chief of staff of the Nigerian Supreme Headquarters, officially visited Iran from 14 to 17 January 1978. The Nigerian chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, was accompanied on this visit by Col Muhammad Bohari, chairman of the National Petroleum Corporation; Mr (Bernard Mafeni), federal commissioner for agriculture and a number of high-ranking government officials.

During his visit to Iran His Excellency Brigadier Yar'adua and his esteemed companions were received in audience by the shah. The two sides held talks on numerous issues relating to bilateral relations and international issues of common interest. Talks pertaining to international issues included African issues, particularly those of southern Africa. In this regard, the sides emphasized their beliefs in the ending of foreign domination in Namibia, the speedy establishment of majority rule in Zimbabwe and the termination of the dangerous actions of apartheid in South Africa.

Regarding international economic issues, the sides once again stressed the establishment of a new world economic order, particularly on the basis of the decisions of the sixth and seventh UN General Assembly special sessions.

The sides discussed the possibilities of expanding trade and economic and technical cooperation between the two countries in the fields of oil, oil industries, natural gas, exploitation of mines, agriculture, education and training and technology. The sides agreed to exchange delegations for the study and identification of the areas of such cooperation. It was decided that representatives from the two countries should visit their respective countries in the first half of 1978.

The Nigerian representative delegation expressed appreciation for the cordial hospitality of the people and Government of Iran, which is a sign of the existing fraternal feelings between the two countries and nations. Brigadier Yar'adua informed the Government of Iran of the Nigerian Government's decision to raise the level of its diplomatic representation in Teheran to the ambassadorial level in order to bring it in line with the imperial representative office in Lagos.

His Excellency the chief of staff of the Nigerian Supreme Headquarters, invited the Iranian prime minister to pay an official visit to Nigeria. The invitation was accepted with pleasure. Its date will be set and announced at a convenient time for both sides through diplomatic channels.

INDIA

SHAH COMMISSION ORDERS PROSECUTION OF MRS GANDHI

BK190914Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Jan 78 BK

[Text] Mrs Indira Gandhi is to be tried for two distinct offenses under the Indian Penal Code for her refusal to take the oath or to make any statement on oath before the Shah Commission today.

Mr Justice J.C. Shah sternly asked whether she would take the witness chair and take the oath. When Mrs Gandhi repeatedly read from a prepared text saying: I am not legally and constitutionally bound to make any statement before you or to bind myself on oath, the judge again asked her whether she should tell the truth about the events leading to the declaration of the emergency. Mrs Gandhi replied: I shall not answer any further questions. Mr Justice Shah thereupon observed: In my opinion an offense has been commited by her under Sections 178 and 179 of the Indian Penal Code [IPC]. The judge directed that the case be forwarded to a Delhi magistrate.

Mrs Gandhi is already to face trial in respect of her earlier offense under Section 179 IPC when she refused to make any statement on oath before the Shah Commission on the 11th of this month. Mrs Gandhi had to be called again before the Shah Commission, because the earlier notice to her in respect of one of the matters listed was defective. She was required to make a statement in respect of events between June 12th and 25th 1975 leading to the declaration of emergency.

The government counsel, Mr P.N. Lekhi, told the commission that Mrs Gandhi has been making fun of the law for the last 11 years and cannot now be allowed to defy the commission like this. He suggested that the commission should ask for security from her that she will appear before the magistrate trying the offense committed by her. He said that as laid down under the law she should be taken into custody in case she refuses to offer such security. Mr Justice Shah, however, felt that there was no need for it.

Mrs Gandhi's counsel, Mr Frank Anthony, made a lengthy argument that the matter included in the fresh summons had already been decided by the commission and the fresh notice in this regard showed bias on the part of the commission, which, he said, is now seeking to be both prosecutor and judge. Mr Justice Shah took exception to this remark and said it is wholly improper for any counsel to suggest bias on the part of the commission. The judge said the inquiry is only intended to determine facts, and the commission is not concerned with the political implications or political consequences.

Referring to Mr Anthony's argument that the matter has already been decided, Mr Justice Shah pointed out that the earlier notice was defective and there can be no proceedings on the basis of a defective notice. A fresh notice was required to be issued under the law, and this was done. There can also be no question of waiver of notice even if it was suggested by Mr Anthony. The defect in the earlier notice was clearly pinpointed by Mr Anthony during the course of his arguments on January 9th and 10th. He had described the notice as being (?beautifully) vague.

When Mr Anthony tried to interrupt Mr Justice Shah as he was dictating the order, he was promptly pulled up by the judge who said: You are not accustomed to judgments being delivered in open court. Do not disturb my line of thought.

USSR ENVOY TO INDIAN OCEAN TALKS MEETS WITH VAJPAYEE

BK181105Y Delhi ISI in English 0905 GMT 18 Jan 78 BK

[Text] L.T. Mendelevich, special envoy of the Soviet Government, January 17 called on Foreign Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Medelevich, who is the Soviet negotiator on U.S.-Soviet talks on the Indian Ocean, had discussions with M.A. Vellodi, secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs and other officials.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES FEBRUARY STATE ELECTIONS

BK131454Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 13 Jan 78 BK

[Text] Assembly elections to the states of Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Meghalaya and the Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh will be held on the 25th of next month. The chief election commissioner, Mr S.L. (Shakder), said in New Delhi today that notifications calling upon the electorate to elect their representatives to the assemblies will be issued on the 24th of this month.

He said in Maharashtra polling might be held on 2 days because of the strike by state government employees. The polling dates in Maharashtra may be the 21st or 22d and the 25th of next month.

The AIR [All-India Radio] correspondent reports that the chief electoral officers of the concerned states and the union territory are meeting in New Delhi to finalize the election arrangements.

Meanwhile, the election commission is to hold a preliminary hearing soon on the allotment of the cow and calf symbol after receiving comments from the Congress Party and the breakaway group. Mr (Shakder) said a decision will be announced before notifications for the assembly elections are issued.

PAKISTAN

HAQ INAUGURATES ROMANIAN-ASSISTED OIL REFINERY

BK181005Y Karachi Overseas Service in English 0930 GMT 18 Jan 78 BK

[Text] Chief Martial Law Administrator Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq inaugurated a new fuel refinery in Karachi yesterday marking the completion of the national refineries extension project. The 600-million-rupee fuel refinery built with Romanian assistance will produce 1.5 million tons of petroleum products annually.

Addressing the gathering, Gen Ziaul Haq made an impassioned appeal to the Pakistani engineers, technicians, workers and professional experts working abroad to give their country their time and ideas so that the nation could benefit from their expertise and experience and accelerate the pace or development. He thanked the president, the government and the people of Romania for their technical assistance to Pakistan in building the refinery. He expressed the hope that the two countries will further collaborate in their own economic projects. He said Pakistan was making efforts to develop the oil industry and oil resources. Pakistan, he said, was self-sufficient in gas but had to import crude oil to meet 80 percent of its requirements at a huge cost.

The Romanian deputy prime minister, Mr Paul Niculescu, who was present at the ceremony, described the refinery as the outcome of a very fruitful cooperation between Pakistan and his country. He hoped relations between Pakistan and Romania would in future attain new dimensions as there were striking prospects of further cooperation in the economic and industrial fields, agriculture and transport.

Later speaking at a dinner hosted in honor of the Romanian deputy prime minister, Gen Ziaul Haq said it is the considered policy of Pakistan to welcome modern technology from whatever sources it is available without strings.

Replying, the Romanian deputy prime minister said his country would welcome more cooperation with Pakistan in the economic, scientific and technological fields. He expressed the confidence that the Pakistan-Romania joint commission, which was meeting this week, would produce positive results.

Joint Commission Meets

BK1815599Y Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 18 Jan 78 BK

[Text] The implementation and progress of various projects under the protocol between Pakistan and Romania were reviewed at the fourth meeting of the joint economic commission of the two countries in Islamabad today. The meeting lasted for about 2 and 1/2 hours. The commission expressed satisfaction at the progress made on the projects during the past year.

The joint commission set up working groups to hold detailed studies tomorrow. These groups are expected to submit their reports to the commission the same day.

The Pakistan delegation to the commission was led by the adviser on finance and economic affairs, Mr A.G.M. Qazi, while the Romanian delegation was headed by its finance minister, Mr Florea Dumitrescu, who arrived in Islamabad this morning.

BRIEFS

AFGAN-SOVIET CONTRACT--A contract was signed between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union yesterday pertaining to the extension for another year of Soviet experts employed in the northern office of the Afgan National Oil Institute. On the basis of this contract, 193 Soviet experts will assist in technical matters related to drilling for prospecting, seismic and geological surveys. Payments for the contract will be made from Soviet credits. [Text] [Kabul in English to Europe 1130 GMT 6 Jan 78 LD]

SRI LANKAN ENVOY TO NEPAL--The Government of Sri Lanka with the concurrence of the Government of Nepal has decided to appoint Arthur Basnayake, high commissioner for Sri Lanka in India, as Sri Lanka's ambassador to Nepal with residence in New Delhi. [Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 17 Jan 78 BK]

LOAN TO SRI LANKA--India has given a loan of 100 million rupees to Sri Lanka for the current year. The credit will be used to finance the purchase of capital and intermediate goods from India. It will carry an interest of 5 percent and will be repayable over a period of 15 and 1/2 years with a grace period of 3 years. Announcing this at a news conference in New Delhi, the visiting Sri Lanka finance minister, Ronnie de Mel, described his discussion with Indian leaders as very successful. He said the quantum of aid granted by India to his country this year is more than double that for any previous year. The 100 million rupee loan is to be used by Sri Lanka for the purchase of transport items like buses and railway wagons, industrial raw materials and industrial machinery, intermediate goods for the construction industry and heavy equipment for irrigation projects. [Text] [Delhi ISI in English 0903 GMT 16 Jan 78 BK]

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

DAILY REPORT volumes are published Monday through Friday in both paper version (mailed daily) and microfiche version (mailed weekly). Annual subscription including occasional supplements is, for the first volume, $125 paper/$100 fiche; each additional area volume up to seven, $70 paper/$60 fiche; all eight volumes $575 paper/$500 fiche. Foreign subscription for the first volume $160 paper/$125 fiche; each additional area volume up to seven, $70 paper/$60 fiche; all eight volumes for $610 paper/$525 fiche. Each additional paper or fiche subscription beyond eight is $50. The volumes are: I—People's Republic of China; II—Eastern Europe; III—Soviet Union; IV—Asia & Pacific; V—Middle East & North Africa; VI—Latin America; VII—Western Europe; VIII—Sub-Saharan Africa. Back issues or single copies are not available. Allow 30 days for processing new subscriptions. Mail remittances, inquiries, and address changes to the NTIS address below.

Note: The publications of the Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS), which are sometimes cited in the DAILY REPORT, can also be ordered from NTIS in single copies or by subscription. In ordering, please cite the JPRS title, number, date, and author if applicable.

Both the DAILY REPORT and the JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at public and university libraries throughout the United States.

NTIS

National Technical Information Service
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Springfield, Virginia 22151